FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

Daily Report

Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-94-218
Thursday
10 November 1994

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Daily Report
Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-94-218 *10 November 1994*

CONTENTS

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Arab-Israeli Talks

'Progress' Reported in Israeli-Syrian Talks *[Jerusalem TV]* 1
Border Crossing With Jordan Inaugurated 10 Nov *[Jerusalem Radio]* 1
Security Meetings Continue at Dead Sea Hotel *[Amman Radio]* 1
Palestinians, Israelis To Meet in Cairo 21 Nov *[MENA]* 1
Israel's Shohat, PA's Quray' on Authority Transfer *[Jerusalem Radio]* 1

Islamic Affairs

Islamic Foreign Minsters' Conference Planned *[SPA]* 1
Political Islam Review: AL-SHA'B 4 Nov 2

Palestinian Affairs

Jerusalem Mayor Said Denied Entry to Orient House *[Jericho VOP]* 3
Fatah Committee Issues Statement on Tunis Meetings *[AL-QUADS 8 Nov]* 3
Major General al-Majayidah Rules Out Civil War *[AL-NAHAR 8 Nov]* 4
Morocco Opens 1st Liaison Office in Autonomous Area *[AFP]* 4
Strike in Territories; IDF Injure Tulkarm Man *[Jerusalem Radio]* 4
'Collaborator' Reportedly Admits to al-'Abid Murder *[Jerusalem Radio]* 4
Gaza Islamic Figure Interviewed on Various Issues *[FILASTIN 4 Nov]* 5
Commentary Assails Division of Ibrahimi Mosque *[Jericho VOP]* 5
Paper Derides Israel's 'Freedom of Worship' Slogan *[AL-QUDS 5 Nov]* 6

ARAB AFRICA

Algeria

Spokesman on Elections, Dialogue, Security *[Algiers Radio]* 8
Islamic Society Movement Welcomes Elections *[Kuwait TV]* 11
Liberation Front Rejects Eradication Policy *[London AL-HAYAH 10 Nov]* 12
UGTA Backs MCB With General Strike *[Algiers TV]* 12

Egypt

Musa on Iraq-Kuwait, U.S. Elections, Other Issue *[Cairo Radio]* 13
Scientific Cooperation Deal Signed With Israel *[MENA]* 13
Protocol on Energy Cooperation Signed With Russia *[MENA]* 13
Writer Warns Against Dangers of Middle East Market *[AKHBAR AL-YAWM 5 Nov]* 13
Court Sentences 3 in Escape of al-Jihad Figure *[MENA]* 14
Surur Reelected Speaker of New People's Assembly *[MENA]* 14
Reaction to Abolition of Laws Viewed *[AL-AHRAM WEEKLY 3 Nov]* 14

Libya

Al-Qadhdhafi Gives Speech to Popular Commands *[Tripoli TV]* 16
Al-Qadhdhafi Meets Popular Leadership of Tripoli *[JANA]* 16
Paper Criticizes 'Scramble' To Recognize Israel *[JANA]* 16
Visiting Greek Party Leader Condemns Sanctions *[Tripoli Radio]* 16

Sudan

Kenyan Envoy Pays Visit, Meets With Officials 17
Meets Assembly Speaker *[Omdurman Radio]* 17
Meets With Minister al-Din *[Omdurman Radio]* 17
Discusses Peace Talks With Taha *[Omdurman Radio]* 17
Received by al-Bashir *[Omdurman Radio]* 18
Meets Southern Leaders *[Omdurman Radio]* 18

ARABIAN PENINSULA

Kuwait

UN Security Council Meeting on Iraq Previewed *[KUNA]* 19
Verbal Recognition Not 'Sufficient' *[KUNA]* 19
U.S. Troop Withdrawal From North Viewed *[KUNA]* 19

Oman

Japanese Prince Arrives From Saudi Arabia *[Muscat Radio]* 20

Saudi Arabia

Japanese Crown Prince, Princess Leave Riyadh *[Riyadh Radio]* 20
Japanese Official Calls GCC Talks 'Positive' *[SPA]* 20

Yemen

Salih Visits Lahij Governorate, Renames Base *[Sanaa Radio]* 20
Ex-President To Hold 'Consultations' With Salih *[London AL-HAYAH 10 Nov]* 21
Mine Explodes in Shabwah, Kills 10 Engineers *[INA]* 21

IRAQ

National Assembly Recognizes Kuwait *[INA]* 22
RCC Endorses Recognition *[INA]* 22
Saddam Briefs Cabinet *[INA]* 22
Reaction Continues to Iranian Air Attack on MKO 22
Clandestine Radio Reports Raid *[Voice of Iraqi People]* 22
MKO Spokesman Condemns Raid *[MENA]* 23
INA Reports Tehran's Announcement 23
Government Denounces 'Aggression' *[INA]* 23
Russian Foreign Minister Kozyrev Arrives *[Baghdad Radio]* 24
Explosion Reported Near Mosul Governorate House *[Voice of Iraqi Kurdistan]* 24
Oppositionists Reportedly Meet Iranian Envoy in UK *[London AL-HAYAH 9 Nov]* 24
Kurdish Leaders Urge Normalization Process *[Voice of the People of Kurdistan]* 25

ISRAEL

Netanyahu, Other Sources View U.S. Elections *[MA'ARIV 10 Nov]* 26
Editorial Views Impact of U.S. Elections *[THE JERUSALEM POST 10 Nov]* 26
Rabin Criticizes France's Veil Orient House Visit *[Paris LIBERATION 8 Nov]* 27
Article Views Possible Water Deal With Turkey *[London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT 9 Nov]* 27
Intelligence Chief on Furor Over Officer's Remarks *[YEDI'OT AHARONOT 10 Nov]* 28
Likud Files Motion of No Confidence Over Poverty *[Jerusalem Radio]* 29
Likud Bill on Orient House Passes Preliminary Hearing *[Jerusalem Radio]* 29
Activists Denied Entry to Cave of Patriarchs *[HA'ARETZ 10 Nov]* 30

JORDAN

Senate 'Unanimously' Ratifies Treaty With Israel *[Amman Radio]* 31

Al-Majali Addresses Senate After Treaty Debate *[Amman Radio]* 31
Council of Ministers Endorses Treaty With Israel *[Amman TV]* 32
King Ratifies Treaty After Senate Debate *[JORDAN TIMES 10-11 Nov]* 32
Iraq's 'Intention' To Recognize Kuwait Welcomed *[Amman TV]* 33
Editorial Lauds Russian Initiative on Iraq *[AL-RA'Y 10 Nov]* 34
Islamists Fear Government Response to 'U.S. Calls' *[AL-BILAD 9 Nov]* 34
King Speaks to 'Arafat, To Continue Contacts *[MENA]* 35
French Admiral Lanxade Concudes Meetings, Departs 35
Meets With Counterpart *[Amman TV]* 35
Meets Crown Prince, EU Official *[Amman Radio]* 35
Departs Amman *[Amman Radio]* 35
Writer on Implications of Hamas-Israeli Talks *[JORDAN TIMES 8 Nov]* 35
Writer Examines Reasons for Treaty Opposition *[JORDAN TIMES 8 Nov]* 36

LEBANON

Buwayz on U.S. Efforts To Protect Resolution 425 *[Beirut Radio]* 39
U.S., Israel Said To Block Mention of Resolution *[VOL]* 39
Hizballah's Qasim on Israeli Prisoner Exchange *[London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT 9 Nov]* 39
Israelis, Resistance Exchange Artillery Fire *[VOL]* 39
Fadlallah Assails Lifting of Arab Boycott *[VOL]* 39
Labor Minister, Syrian Counterpart Sign Accord *[AL-BA'TH 19 Oct]* 39
Chamber Commission To Lift Immunity on Deputy *[VOL]* 40

SYRIA

Cabinet Discusses Developments, Clinton Visit *[Damascus Radio]* 41
Russian Envoy Denies Conflict With U.S. on Region *[Paris Radio Monte Carlo]* 41
Saudi Foreign Minister Arrives With Message *[Damascus Radio]* 41
Meets With al-Asad *[Damascus Radio]* 41
Delivers Message to al-Asad, Departs *[Damascus Radio]* 41
Predeparture Statements Reported *[Damascus TV]* 42
Vice President Returns From Medical Trip *[AL-BILAD 9 Nov]* 42
Columnist: Arabs 'Only Losers' at Casablanca Summit *[AL-THAWRAH 3 Nov]* 42
Paper Attacks Casablanca Summit, 'Peres' Mideast Plan *[AL-BA'TH 4 Nov]* 42
Prime Minister Briefs Ba'th Officials on Economy *[Damascus Radio]* 43
New Oil Discoveries Said To Increase Output *[AL-BAYAN 3 Nov]* 43

SOUTH ASIA

Afghanistan

Attack by Hekmatyar Forces 'Foiled'; Dozens Killed *[Kabul Radio]* 44
Refugees Present 'Sound Proposals' to Hezb-e Eslami *[Message of Freedom]* 44
State High Council Discusses 'Peace Efforts' *[Kabul Radio]* 44
President Rabbani Receives Sudanese Delegation *[Kabul Radio]* 44

Iran

Government Air Raid on DPK Headquarters Viewed 44
DPK on Regime's 'Crime' *[Voice of Iranian Kordestan]* 44
DPIK: Raid Violates Exclusion Zone *[AFP]* 45
Radio Expresses Condolences *[Voice of Iranian Kordestan]* 45
Komeleh Party 'Condemns' Raids *[Voice of Iranian Kordestan]* 45
Kurds, DPK Meet on Air Strike *[Voice of Iranian Kordestan]* 46
Border Attacks Cited in Letter to Butrus-Ghali *[Tehran Radio]* 46
Envoy to UN Cited on Iraqi-Based 'Terrorist' Groups *[IRNA]* 46
CFK Cites 'War-mongering' Policy of Regime *[Voice of Mojahed]* 46
'Terrorist Agents' Arrested; 'Big Bombs Seized' *[IRNA]* 47
Government Spokesman Discusses Regional Issues *[IRNA]* 47
UK Foreign Office Said To View MKO as 'Terrorist' *[IRNA]* 47

Tehran To Sell 2 Million Tons of Oil for Kazakhstan *[Tehran Radio]* 48
East European States Favor Industrial Cooperation *[IRNA]* 48
Nateq-Nuri for Improved Russia, Indonesian Ties *[IRNA]* 48
Ambassador's Visit With DPRK Minister Viewed *[IRNA]* 48
Va'ezi Receives German Envoy, Urges More Ties *[IRNA]* 48
Commentary on King Husayn's Visit to Israel *[Tehran International]* 49

Pakistan

Leghari Views Malakand Situation, Air Force *[Islamabad TV]* 49
Peace Restored; Hostages Released *[Islamabad Radio]* 50
Bhutto Establishes Nuclear Regulatory Board *[JANG 9 Nov]* 50
France Urged To Honor Nuclear Reactor Deal *[JANG 7 Nov]* 50
Economic Importance of Nuclear Energy Stressed *[PAKISTAN 8 Nov]* 51
Article Discusses Purchase of Agosta Submarines *[DAWN 10 Nov]* 52

Sri Lanka

Chandrika Kumaratunga Elected as New President *[LANKAPUVATH]* 53
Urges Acceptance of Results *[LANKAPUVATH]* 53
Vows To Continue Peace Process *[LANKAPUVATH]* 54
President Wijetunga Gives Farewell Address *[LANKAPUVATH]* 54
Curfew Imposed To Stem 'Wave' of Election Violence *[AFP]* 56

Arab-Israeli Talks

'Progress' Reported in Israeli-Syrian Talks

TA0911190694 Jerusalem Israel Television Channel 1 Network in Hebrew 1800 GMT 9 Nov 94

[Announcer-read report]

[FBIS Translated Text] The United States is trying to bring about a series of understandings between Israel and Syria by the end of this month, which will pave the way for a meeting in Washington of military experts from both countries to discuss Golan Heights security arrangements. Our political correspondent Gadi Sukenik reports that the U.S. secretary of state will attempt to achieve such an agreement during his visit to our region late this month. The prime minister will also discuss the issue with U.S. President Clinton during his visit to the United States.

Meanwhile, stepped-up negotiations are being held between the Israeli and Syrian ambassadors in Washington with U.S. mediation. Our correspondent reports that some progress has been discernible over the last few days.

Border Crossing With Jordan Inaugurated 10 Nov

TA1011102494 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1000 GMT 10 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The Jordan River border crossing between Jordan and Israel was inaugurated this morning at a ceremony on the Shaykh Husayn Bridge in the Bet She'an Valley. The ceremony was attended by the transportation, construction, and agriculture ministers of both countries. The ministers made speeches and then cut ribbons on both sides of the bridge. Schoolgirls from Jordan and Israel offered the ministers flower bouquets. Light aircraft flying from Israel to Jordan and back circled over the bridge.

Speaking at the ceremony, Transportation Minister Yisra'el Qeysar said that the concept of a bridge for peace had today been given literal meaning. He hoped that both countries would soon begin implementing joint transportation projects.

The Jordanian transportation minister said that Jordan's geographic location enabled it to become a bridge between east and west; however it needed both private and public capital as well as foreign assistance. Jordan Television carried a live relay of the ceremony.

Security Meetings Continue at Dead Sea Hotel

JN0911180794 Amman Radio Jordan in English 1700 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Arms Control and Regional Security Group has continued its meetings for the second day at the Dead Sea Hotel. The meetings are under the sponsorship of the U.S. and Russia.

The meetings are attended by 22 Arab countries, as well as the director of Conflict Prevention Center in Europe, established by the European Cooperation and Security Conference.

The working groups dealt with four main issues: Establishment of a security and military communication regional network headed by Holland; exchange of military data; in-advance declaration of any military activities, headed by Turkey; and confidence building measures on issues related to the navies of the regional countries.

The group is due to meet again in Tunis on the 15th of December, with 30 countries attending .

Palestinians, Israelis To Meet in Cairo 21 Nov

NC0911220594 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2125 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Gaza, 9 Nov (MENA)—A high-level Palestinian-Israeli meeting will be held in Cairo on 21 November to complete discussion on handing over the remaining areas in the West Bank to the Palestinian Authority and to discuss measures relating to the Palestinian elections and the redeployment of the Israeli forces after their withdrawal from the West Bank towns and villages. Stating this tonight, Dr. Nabil Sha'th, minister of planning and international cooperation in the Palestinian National Authority, added that the level of the meeting has not been fixed but is expected to be on the ministerial level.

Israel's Shohat, PA's Quray' on Authority Transfer

TA0911163394 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1500 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Abu-'Ala' [Ahmad Quray'], who holds the economics portfolio in the Palestinian Authority [PA], said following his meeting with Finance Minister Avraham Shohat today that the Palestinians also demand the transfer of authorities in the spheres of industry, agriculture, trade, imports licensing, insurance, banking, energy, water, environment, and infrastructures.

Minister Shohat said that today or tomorrow Israel will transfer to the autonomy authorities 11 million shekels accrued from taxes, health payments, and income taxes paid by Palestinians working in Israel. He also said Israel will transfer to an American bank funds for implementing the pension arrangements for the Palestinians working in Israel.

Islamic Affairs

Islamic Foreign Minsters' Conference Planned

LD0911135094 Riyadh SPA in English 1231 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Jeddah, Nov 9, SPA—The five-day meeting of the senior officials from the 51

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Islamic countries which started in Jeddah yesterday to prepare agenda and recommend resolutions for the 22nd Islamic Foreign Ministers Conference [ICFM], is expected to wind up its business later today, two days ahead of the scheduled concluding session.

The ICFM is set to be held in Morocco on December 10 and 11 and it will be followed by the seventh Islamic summit conference on December 13 and 14.

Saudi GAZETTE [title as received] quoted sources close to the Organization of the Islamic Conference as saying the delegates were able to finish most of their work on Tuesday because there were hardly any contentious issues. "The general secretariat had prepared good ground work which helped the senior officials a great deal," they said.

The senior officials are entrusted with the task to finalise draft resolutions as well as the draft agenda programme of work for the 22nd ICFM.

It is for the first time that the senior officials are meeting one month ahead of the regular annual ICFM.

Meanwhile, a prominent Arab scientist speaking at a symposium in Riyadh called on Moslem countries to allocate more funds for scientific research.

Dr. Faruq al-Baz, director of the Remote Sensing Research Center in Boston University, U.S., said that "the brain drain" from Islamic countries is because of better incentives and facilities in the West.

"However, it is fortunate that more and more scientific institutions are being set up in Moslem countries," he said.

He, however, noted that the "brain drain" is not as acute now,and said Islamic nations are paying more attention to scientific research.

He made these observations before a symposium, which was held at the King Faysal Center for Islamic Studies and Research. The meeting was also addressed by Ahmed al-Kadi, head of the Islamic Medical Institute in Florida, U.S..

Political Islam Review: AL-SHA'B 4 Nov

NC0911122994

[Editorial Report] The following is a comprehensive review of all items in the 4 November edition of the Arabic-language newspaper AL-SHA'B that pertain to political Islamic issues.

CONTENTS:

1. Court Case Against "The Emigrant" Film Continues
2. Cairo University Students Condemn Casablanca Summit Resolutions
3. Islamic Current Wins al-Azhar University Union Elections
4. Muslims of Finland Said To Need Attention of Muslim World
5. 'Adil Husayn Criticizes Government Economic Policy

COURT CASE AGAINST "THE EMIGRANT" FILM CONTINUES

A short 200-word report by Huda Makkawi appears on page 6 about the issue of the film "The Immigrant." The report maintains that "The 'Abdin court for urgent matters decided in its session yesterday under Jabra Ibrahim Jabra not to look into the case referred by lawyer Mahmud Abu-al-Fayd against the film by producer Yusuf Shahin" and to refer it to the southern Cairo court. The report says that al-Azhar had issued a memorandum rejecting the film because it contains many derogatory expressions violating the morals and traditions of society.

CAIRO UNIVERSITY STUDENTS CONDEMN CASABLANCA SUMMIT RESOLUTIONS

A 100-word report on page 6 notes that "Students of the Islamic Action League at Cairo University have condemned the Casablanca summit." They described it as an "American-Zionist scheme to impose Zionist hegemony on the Arab and Islamic people of the region." The students held an exhibition in which they exposed the dangers of a common market in the Middle East. The university guards withdrew the identity cards of those students responsible for the exhibition, the report notes.

ISLAMIC CURRENT WINS AL-AZHAR UNIVERSITY STUDENT UNION ELECTIONS

Another short 100-word report on page 6 by Tariq 'Abd-al-Hamid notes that "The Islamic current has scored a big victory in the students' union elections at al-Azhar University." It says that Ayman Dawud 'Atiyah of the School of Pharmacy was elected to the position of secretary general with a majority of 54 votes out of a total of 95. The report adds that this victory was a surprise to the security department which was confident the Islamists would not win since 80 percent of them had been removed from the various colleges.

MUSLIMS OF FINLAND SAID TO NEED ATTENTION OF MUSLIM WORLD

Page 8 publishes a 400-word article by Kamal Habib in which he discusses the situation of Muslims in Finland. He gives a history of how Muslims came to Finland, mostly through Russia when Finland was part of the Russian Empire. The article notes that there are very few Muslims of Finland and they are marrying non-Muslims, making it very difficult for them to maintain their identity. They need imams for the mosques and teachers of Islamic history and culture. The article concludes: "The Muslims of Finland need attention from the Muslims of the Islamic world; otherwise they will be in danger of extinction."

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

'ADIL HUSAYN CRITICIZES GOVERNMENT ECONOMIC POLICY

Page 5 is dedicated to an article by 'Adil Husayn in which he attacks the government's economic policy and accuses it of either turning a blind eye to the problems or of ignorance. He reviews the Casablanca summit's resolutions and concludes that the objectives are to allow Israel to hegemonize the region's economy. He also maintains that the objectives of the United States, in conjunction with Israel, are to destroy the economy of the region; but, he notes, the Egyptians and Muslims will not yield and give in. He gives the example of the rotten cotton crop this year. A report by Mustafa Bakri in AL-AHRAR newspaper apparently accused Minister Yusuf Wali of being responsible for the bad cotton crop because he "decided to use destructive Israeli-American pesticides." He maintains that the Israelis and Americans wish to destroy the prosperous cotton trade in Egypt so that they can promote tourism and make Egypt's economy dependent on Israel's. He writes: "The objective of those who asked us to concentrate on this sector is to use tourism as a means to subjugate Egypt's economy to Zionist authority." He continues: "It has become clear that the income from tourism will not increase or become regular except in accordance to regional arrangements orchestrated by Israel."

Husayn accuses the men in office of wanting to stay in power after all the destruction they have caused to the economy. The writer concludes that the solution to all these problems is to hold free elections so that the ruling party can be changed in a peaceful and orderly manner. He then attacks the government for not only physically torturing those who opposed it, but "locking our mouths with keys and banning us from talking on television, so that it can have a free hand and broadcast whatever it pleases." He calls on the various opposition parties to take united action against the government and organize a popular conference. He says: "I call on the leaders of parties and democratic institutions to take courageous stands, even if they have to sacrifice and bear the consequences. This is their destiny. Freedom must be snatched; it is never granted." He concludes his article: "Believe me. Free elections are better for you and for us for the sake of reform and change."

Palestinian Affairs

Jerusalem Mayor Said Denied Entry to Orient House

JN0911174194 Jericho Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1515 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] This morning, Palestinian guards prevented Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert from entering Orient House.

Israel Radio in Hebrew reported that Olmert attempted to enter Orient House to meet Faysal al-Husayni, official in charge of Jerusalem affairs in the National Authority, but that he was prevented from doing so.

It is to be recalled that Israelis have threatened to close down Orient House, and halt the services it is rendering to the peace process. Moreover, the Israeli Knesset has endorsed the first reading of a bill banning the PLO from engaging in political activities in Jerusalem.

[Later in the 1515 GMT newscast on 9 November, Jericho Voice of Palestine in Arabic reports the following relevant material: "In a statement to Voice of Palestine, Faysal al-Husayni has dismissed as groundless the news report that the Orient House guards prevented the mayor of Jerusalem from entering Orient House. Al-Husayni added that Orient House does not close its doors to anybody. Mr. Olmert will be welcome if he decides to visit Orient House any time he wants, al-Husayni concluded."]

Fatah Committee Issues Statement on Tunis Meetings

TA0911194194 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 8 Nov 94 p 4

[FBIS Translated Text] Nabulus, the Nabulus Press Office—The Fatah Central Committee has issued a press release detailing the minutes of its recent meetings in Tunis, the issues addressed, and the decisions reached at the meetings held on 1 and 2 November.

The committee said that it discussed the full report presented by President Yasir 'Arafat about the internal situation in the occupied Palestinian territories and in the areas of the Palestinian Authority stemming from Israeli intransigence and the continued policy of clamping a cordon around and siege on the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The committee also reviewed the agreements concluded with the Israeli Government and what has been implemented or is still pending from their articles due to Israeli maneuvering, especially the issues of holding elections, securing the withdrawal of the Israeli army from Palestinian towns and villages, and allowing the National Authority to take over all powers in the rest of the West Bank areas.

In its meetings, the Central Committee also reviewed the developments of the settlement process on the Arab tracks.

The committee also reviewed the general situation of Fatah inside and outside the occupied territories and put forward a formula for the relationship between the movement and its organizations and institutions and the National Authority. The committee stressed the need to expedite the drafting of an organizational formula for the participation of the movement's leaders inside the occupied territories within central leadership frameworks. The committee also stressed the importance of periodical meetings by the PLO Executive Committee as it is the main point of reference of the Palestinian Authority

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

and represents the central leadership of the Palestinian people wherever they may reside.

In its statement, the Central Committee stressed the need to deepen the spirit of cooperation among all Palestinian forces and factions inside and outside the homeland and to prepare for elections inside the homeland. Those elections must be held in a way that is compatible with the declaration of independence, preserves the democratic system, and protects freedom and human dignity.

The committee focused on the issue of releasing detainees and prisoners as soon as possible, securing the return of deportees, and launching the work of the committee dealing with displaced persons.

Major General al-Majayidah Rules Out Civil War

TA0911152894 Jerusalem AL-NAHAR in Arabic 8 Nov 94 pp 1, 7

[Report by Kamal Abu-Salah]

[FBIS Translated Text] Khan Yunus—Major General 'Abd-al-Razzaq al-Majayidah, commander of Palestinian forces in Gaza, has called on the Israeli Government to respect the peace agreement signed by the Palestinian Authority [PA] and Israel in Oslo. He said: "Recent acts, especially the assassination of Hani al-'Abid, hinder the peace process." He added: "Israel should not embarrass the PA more than this. We have opponents to peace just as they do. We, who have signed the peace agreement, must reach understanding in this stage so that peace can prevail in the region."

As for Israel's dissemination of reports to the effect that PA personnel are training elements from Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] and Islamic Jihad to detect time bombs or explosive devices in their cars and homes, al-Majayidah said: "Hamas and Islamic Jihad have elements trained here and abroad for such operations, and they do not need any assistance. The PA has only told the responsible parties to take precautions. The PA is responsible for public security in the Gaza Strip and the Jericho area. There will not be any civil war in the Gaza Strip. Rabin must understand this."

Morocco Opens 1st Liaison Office in Autonomous Area

NC0911143694 Paris AFP in English 1040 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Gaza City, Gaza Strip, Nov 9 (AFP)—Morocco became Wednesday [9 November] the first country to open a liaison bureau in the autonomous Gaza Strip.

Palestinian officials voiced hope it was a first step to establishing an embassy in a future independent Palestinian state.

Mohammed Abdel-Salam Si Nasser presented his credentials to PLO chief Yasir 'Arafat in a red-carpet ceremony, and read out a statement of greeting from King Hassan of Morocco.

Under the Israeli-Palestinian self-rule agreement signed in Cairo on May 4, Israel remains in charge of foreign affairs and the bureau does not technically enjoy diplomatic status.

Rabat's move was part of a deal last July which saw it take the first step towards full diplomatic ties with Israel by agreeing to set up a liaison bureau in Tel Aviv.

Several European countries have established coordinating offices in the West Bank autonomous enclave of Jericho to deal with aid and bilateral relations with the Palestinians.

But Morocco is the first Arab country to open an office in the autonomous zones.

"We welcome this step," 'Arafat's spokesman, Nabil Abu-Rudaynah, said after the ceremony.

"We hope it will be developed to a Moroccan embassy in an independent Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital.

"We hope there will be more Arab representation in preparation for embassies."

Strike in Territories; IDF Injure Tulkarm Man

TA0911164994 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1600 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] In Tulkarm, a Palestinian was lightly wounded by army fire during a stone-throwing clash. In Nabulus, a curfew was enforced for an hour this morning while IDF [Israel Defense Forces] troops searched for wanted terrorists. A general strike was observed in the territories today, the ninth of the month when the intifadah broke out seven years ago, despite a call by the Palestinian Authority not to strike.

In the Gaza Strip, several shots were fired at an IDF position near the Khan Yunus refugee camp last night. There were no casualties or damage. Soldiers in the position returned fire.

'Collaborator' Reportedly Admits to al-'Abid Murder

TA0711155194 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1500 GMT 7 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Al-Haqq, the Palestinian organization for human rights in the territories, says that the Palestinian police are holding a collaborator who admitted that, upon receiving instructions from Israel, he and his associates had planned to murder or kidnap Islamic Jihad activist Hani al-'Abid. Al-'Abid was killed several days ago in his booby-trapped car.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

The organization says that before he died 'Abid said that the Palestinian Authority had notified him that Israel intended to capture him, dead or alive. Our correspondent Yoni Ben-Menahem reports that the Palestinian police have refused to comment on the al-Haqq announcement.

Gaza Islamic Figure Interviewed on Various Issues

TA0711165394 Gaza FILASTIN in Arabic 4 Nov 94 p 5

[Interview with Shaykh Ahmad Bahr, head of the Gaza Islamic Society and "one of the most prominent Islamic figures in the Strip," by correspondent Hasan Abu-Hashish in Gaza; date not given]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [passage omitted] [Abu-Hashish] What is the Islamic Movement's stance regarding participation in elections?

[Bahr] The movement is in favor of municipal and trade union elections that serve the Palestinian people's interests. As for elections for a self-rule council, in principle, the movement is opposed to participation because those elections are for an executive council of which the Israeli authorities are the reference point. Moreover, the movement is opposed to participation in legislative elections the ceiling of which is self-rule. If, however, legislative elections are held—separate from the autonomy—to allow the Palestinian people both inside and outside the occupied territories to choose their representatives, the movement will not object to participating in those elections.

[Abu-Hashish] The idea of a political party for Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] surfaced recently, but it is no longer on the agenda. What can you tell us about this issue?

[Bahr] The idea of setting up a party is still under discussion, and it will be implemented at the appropriate time.

[Abu-Hashish] The slowing pace of unity between opposition factions has led to the accusation that they are a superficial opposition. What do you think is the reason?

[Bahr] Alliance with opposition Palestinian forces is motivated by a common denominator—rejection of the Oslo accord. This alliance is a political pulpit that is fulfilling a rather important role.

[Abu-Hashish] News agencies have reported that some kind of a dialogue is under way between the Palestinian Authority [PA] and the Islamic Movement. What is the content of this dialogue, and how successful has it been?

[Bahr] The meetings were only meant to address problems of everyday life. We hope that these meetings will succeed in serving the homeland's interests even though the PA has failed to implement what was agreed upon.

[Abu-Hashish] What is the Islamists' stance regarding the deteriorating security, moral, and economic situation in the Gaza Strip, bearing in mind that opposition must be comprehensive rather than merely political?

[Bahr] The deteriorating security, moral, and economic situation is the result of the Palestinian-Israeli agreement, which serves Israel at the expense of the Palestinians. Those who signed this agreement unilaterally bear responsibility for this situation. Despite this, the Islamic Movement is ready to cooperate in promoting the homeland's interests, separate from the Oslo and Cairo accords.

[Abu-Hashish] The PA recently raised the issue of withdrawing Hamas' weapons. What is your own personal position on this?

[Bahr] It is preferable for the mujahid and struggler who fought the occupation to continue bearing arms. The PA must provide him with that, because he is the symbol of its pride and dignity.

[Abu-Hashish] Have you demanded from the PA protection against Rabin's threats?

[Bahr] The movement has not demanded protection from the PA nor has the PA proposed such a thing. The PA must protect the security of society and individuals, as well as public security.

[Abu-Hashish] The self-rule authority agencies have absorbed many cadres and elements of the Islamic Movement. Has this affected the movement's internal unity?

[Bahr] All those who joined the PA's agencies are ordinary individuals who did so out of their own free will. This is a personal act aimed at securing a livelihood and has no connection with the movement's unity.

[Abu-Hashish] Recently, especially after the Jerusalem and Tel Aviv operations, Hamas has been accused of receiving support from Jordan and Iran. What is your response to this?

[Bahr] Hamas has not received any support from Iran or Jordan. Those who are promoting this notion seek to distort the political image of Hamas and link it with foreign forces, despite the fact that Hamas' body is in the occupied territories. [passage omitted]

Commentary Assails Division of Ibrahimi Mosque

JN0911182194 Jericho Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1540 GMT 9 Nov 94

[Political commentary: "Dividing the Ibrahimi Mosque Is a Reward to Settlers"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Within the framework of the policy of entrenching the fait accompli, the occupation authorities have divided the holy Ibrahimi Mosque in Hebron between the Muslims and Jews following a

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

closure of eight months in the wake of the crime committed by the criminal Israeli settler Goldstein last March and in which dozens of people were killed.

In addition to the fact that this measure is a violation of international laws and charters, this measure constitutes a blatant violation of the stumbling peace process on the Palestinian track. This measure is an attempt to blackmail the Palestinian National Authority, particularly since it coincides with a series of occupation measures hidden behind various slogans. This clearly shows that the qualitative move toward the stage of peace in the region could not effect the required and necessary change in the Israeli mentality to achieve a just peace in the region.

Turning the holy Ibrahimi Mosque into a military barracks is an encroachment on the Muslims' right to run their own affairs, holy shrines, and places of worship. This will not serve the security of worshipers in any way. It also fully contradicts the slogan of the freedom of worship about which the Israeli Government boasts whenever the issue of the unequivocal Palestinian right to Jerusalem is raised. The Israeli Government's division of the Ibrahimi Mosque entails many dangers. At the top of the list is the fact that staunch settlers will be encouraged to encroach on this holy place. The settlers will also be kept in the heart of Hebron instead of moving them out of the city after they were planted by force inside the city and among the Palestinian people.

Those settlers have always been a factor of tension and exacerbation. What is even more serious is the fact that this Israeli measure came on the eve of the Palestinian-Israeli talks on the withdrawal of the Israeli Army from the West Bank cities, villages, and camps. This measures comes as an attempt to delay the talks on the city of Hebron, as is the case is with the Arab city of Jerusalem.

Just as the occupation forces prevented the Palestinians from reaching Jerusalem over the past years, the division of the Ibrahimi Mosque makes the Palestinian people's performance of their religious rites conditional upon the mood of a group of Israeli soldiers stationed at its entrance.

In brief, safeguarding the security of worshipers is no more than a small part of the whole thing. This requires the Israeli Government to make several steps toward achieving peace. The Israeli Government should expedite the redeployment of the Israeli occupation forces in the West Bank, abandon the policy of imposing fait accomplis, cancel its measures dividing the holy Ibrahimi Mosque, safeguard this sacred Isalmic mosque, and prevent the settlers from approaching it, or entering it, instead of rewarding them for Goldstein's crime. Any other measures will not, in any way, serve the peace process, but strengthen Palestinian doubts about Israeli credibility, thereby encouraging the Palestinian people to abandon peace. This is because peace is not just charters or the signing of treaties inasmuch as it is a situation felt by the citizens who want to see its fruits. Otherwise, peace, and its formalities, are no more than another lie that cannot deceive people.

Paper Derides Israel's 'Freedom of Worship' Slogan

TA0911183994 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 5 Nov 94 p 13

[Editorial: "Dividing the Ibrahimi Mosque Is a Gross Violation of International Law"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The least that can be said about the decision by the Israeli authorities to divide Hebron's holy Ibrahimi Mosque, determine whether to close or open it, restrict the movement of worshipers to it, turn it into some kind of a military barracks, and place Israeli signs at its entrance and gates is that this represents a gross violation of international law and freedom of worship. It also constitutes a grave infringement upon the right of Muslims to administer their holy sites and sets a dangerous precedent that will definitely be reflected on other Muslim holy sites.

The Israeli authorities have decided to reopen the mosque on Monday [7 November] after a closure that has continued since February as a result of the dreadful massacre committed by the criminal Barukh Goldstein, a settler from Qiryat Arba'. Israel completely ignored Palestinian, Arab, and Islamic objections to dividing this holy site. It also ignored the international law that forbids an occupying power from carrying out changes in holy and other sites located in the territories under its occupation.

Naturally, bestowing legitimacy on Jewish settlement in the heart of Hebron and infringing upon Palestinian and Islamic rights in the Ibrahimi Mosque, which is located in an area under occupation, affirm the violation of international law. This requires the international community to review this new violation after the Security Council had limited itself to sending observers to Hebron. Those observers returned without achieving tangible results.

Israel has raised the slogan "Freedom of worship" whenever there has been talk about the illegality of its control over Jerusalem. This freedom has been repeatedly violated by preventing Muslims and Christians from the West Bank and Gaza Strip from reaching Jerusalem's holy sites. Now come the new Israeli arrangements

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

imposed on the Ibrahimi Mosque, which give Israel the freedom to close it whenever it wishes and bar Muslims from reaching it. All this affirms that the slogan "Freedom of worship" has been tantamount to throwing sand in the eyes, and this reaffirms that freedom and occupation are incompatible and cannot coexist.

From this premise, if what is happening in the Ibrahimi Mosque is a violation of international legitimacy's charters and resolutions, as well as a violation of Muslims' rights, then this issue must not be addressed only by the Palestinian side, rather it is an international, Islamic, and Arab responsibility.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Algeria

Spokesman on Elections, Dialogue, Security

LD0911215894 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1102 GMT 9 Nov 94

[Interview with Ahmed Attaf, official government spokesman and undersecretary for Maghreban affairs and cooperation, by Mohsin Slimani; place not given; from the "Transformations" program—live]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [Slimani] We welcome Mr. Ahmed Attaf in the Transformations program, live from our Channel One studio. We begin with a question on the latest political developments in the national sphere. Mr. Ahmed Attaf, you spoke after the president's speech saying that the government was determined to organize elections on time and before the end of 1995, as stated by Mr. Liamine Zeroual [on 31 October]. You also mentioned that Algeria has resources and capabilities to embody this new orientation. But contradictory commentaries have noted what are deemed as difficulties in holding elections as long as conditions, particularly the security and political ones, remained somewhat complex. Mr. Ahmed Attaf, do what you called the Algerian capabilities reflect the conditions on the ground in Algeria?

[Attaf] Thank you for your kind invitation. To answer your question, I would like to confirm that organizing presidential elections was a commitment made by the president before the people. And he will comply with that pledge and that commitment.

The president would not have made such a commitment—to hold presidential elections before the end of 1995—if he had not had all the facts and had not studied all files related to the national situation and its dimensions.

There is concentration now on the security dimension. In that respect, I would like to say the following: The jurisdiction of our security forces in the past was to defend territorial unity, possessions or the security in general. But the terrorism phenomenon appeared and our forces were not prepared to confront it. After a period to adapt to that new phenomenon and situation, I can say today that our security forces have all capabilities to confront the phenomena of violence and terrorism until they eliminate them completely.

[Slimani] Regarding the issues on which the national press also commented, particularly what you have explained during a meeting with the press concerning the dialogue issue as well as what has been understood from the speech of the president of the state, the question is as follows: Have any changes taken place regarding the issue of dialogue at the level of governmental bodies, even at the level of what is called the bodies of the political parties, i.e. has the issue of dialogue been abandoned completely from the national arena?

[Attaf] With regard to the dialogue issue, the situation is crystal clear. First, I remind you of the content of the president's speech when he met the [political] parties on 29 October. In the speech which was published, he said frankly that the doors of the dialogue were still open and that he was waiting for the political parties to feel the need to resume the dialogue. Second, during his intervention in front of the council of ministers, the president once again stressed [this] issue by saying that the doors of dialogue were still open. The basis of the dialogue is still the same as was defined by the president: Respect for the constants which he defined and they are non-negotiable, non-arguable, and not open to discussion.

[Slimani] Do you think the dialogue mechanism will change following the announcement that the elections will be held before the end of 1995?

[Attaf] There is an English saying which says: Do not cross the bridge before you come to it. So we will cross the bridge of mechanism when we get to it.

[Slimani] Alright, the other question which was also raised concerns the way the presidential elections will be held. Regarding this issue, what is the government's role in organizing the process of the presidential elections, and how will the Algerian government or its various bodies deal with the political arena, particularly the parties which talked about what they called the failure of the dialogue?

[Attaf] Regarding the government's role, power, and tasks in preparing for the presidential elections, the recent meeting of the council of ministers has defined them. The government was charged with preparing an elections law and taking all necessary organizational measures. The government is undertaking this task which will be studied and assessed or adjusted locally inside the council of ministers where a provisional monitoring and following up process of the government activities will take place. There is another aspect which is the voters' list. This process started a few months ago and is still going on, and it will also contribute to the calm preparations for the elections.

[Slimani] Alright; only for confirmation: Is the role of the government taken from the angle of obtaining the views of some political parties on the process of reconsidering—for example—the electoral laws?

[Attaf] Now all I can say is that as far as the government is concerned it is called upon to carry out a technical and legal work—preparing the electoral law. As for obtaining the views of the parties, this falls within another framework, and more clearly within the framework of the dialogue itself. But now this phase is a phase of preparation of electoral law.

[Slimani] [passage omitted] The official spokesman of the Presidency has also spoken about the possibility of reconsidering the law relating to the political societies and in some other aspects he spoke also about the media

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

law. Does this mean that there is a clear vision regarding a series of laws which will be enacted prior to the holding of the presidential election?

[Attaf] I can only speak about something that exists, and what does exist is a number of decisions that were taken within the Council of Ministers. These decisions relate to two axes—the preparation of the electoral law and making available the organizational conditions for the election. This is what there is on the agenda of the government, nothing more and nothing less.

[Slimani] Concerning making conditions suitable for holding elections next year, one of the issues that was put forth by journalists and those following the events was the practical obstacles and difficulties of having them, the capablities and the current state of the Algerian adminstration—particularly in light of acts of sabotage aimed at local authorities.

[Attaf] It is one of the organizational conditions which the government will provide. Solutions will be found for these problems when the time comes and I confirm that all conditions for preparations and finances will be available when the presidential elections are held.

[Slimani] Another question. It could be a guessing question on the government's view—as you are the official spokesman—do you think that the atmosphere is right for such an operation, particularly in the formula in which these elections will be held? By that I mean, will there be wide political participation, nominations, in these elections?

[Attaf] Of course. Of course.

[Slimani] Presidential nominations will be free?

[Attaf] Of course. The president said that organizing the presidential elections was one of the elements that could entrench democracy in our country. So participation in them is open.

[Slimani] Mr. Ahmed Attaf, are you not afraid—concerning the government and country's authorities—that new indicators on how political parties tackle the president's political speech will arise, particularly with the announcement of elections. Are you not afraid of the possibility that some political parties could boycott the elections?

[Attaf] That issue is not on the cards now. The political parties are still hesitant to frankly announce their position on this issue. I cannot pre-judge them.

[Slimani] Concerning ways to carry out the elections. Is there a specific formula or are you waiting for a formula from the council of ministers?

[Attaf] The shape of the elections is linked to the electoral law. All these things which you pointed out concern the contents of the electoral law which specifies the form of the elections.

[Slimani] A question concerning issues which were prominent in the president's speech, particularly those relating to letters of leaders of the dissolved Islamic Salvation Front [FIS]. Do you think that the dissolved FIS has now been axed for good from the dialogue?

[Attaf] As I said and until this minute, the president has not axed anyone from the dialogue. All that has to happen is that the parties which want to participate in the dialogue have to respect the constants and conditions which the president outlined and laid down. That is the main condition for participants in the dialogue; indeed it is the only one.

[Slimani] An issue circulating in the press is the rumored possibility of a cabinet reshuffle or the formation of a coalition government. Are these issues in the cards or will the government or the transitional government, which the national conference talked about, carry out these duties?

[Attaf] A cabinet reshuffle is not in the cards under current circumstances.

[Slimani] Okay, another question regarding internal developments in Algeria and the announcement of elections and the relationship between these things and views of foreigners, particularly Europeans and Americans. These things which occurred in Algeria and efforts that are being made by the government were accepted by Europeans and Americans in the same manner although there is a contradiction between the two. [as heard]

[Attaf] Concerning this issue, I want to say, very forcibly, the following: We are not accountable to anyone concerning our internal situation. We deal with our internal situation among ourselves and we are not accountable, as I said, to the outside world. We have not asked for advice or instructions. That is not part of the Algerian character or the custom of Algerian leaders.

We deal with our situation among ourselves as Algerians. The outside world has no [business] to interfere.

[Slimani] But there is interest focused on what is happening in Algeria, especially from foreigners, and on developments taking place in areas such as the Arab Maghreb region and in a country such as Algeria which has a strategic position in this region. Are these views—for instance the European one which considers that what is happening in Algeria is a proof that the government is currently seeking solutions for the crisis, or as the Americans think regarding the dialogue? [as heard]

[Attaf] This argument, if there was such an argument between the Europeans and the Americans over the situation in Algeria, is a matter which concerns them. We as Algerians are not concerned with this argument, if there was an argument. It has no impact on the efforts of the state president and the Algerian government. [passage omitted in which Slimani asks if Algeria will participate in the proposed 3-3 meeting, to include Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco, and France, Italy, and Spain, on the

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

developments in the region; the spokesman says Algeria is studying the proposal, adding that whatever bolsters cooperation and coordination to combat terrorism will be welcomed by Algeria]

[Slimani] Concerning the fight against terrorism Mr. Ahmed Attaf, we noted recently that there was a will on the part of the authorities to take fresh initiatives, particularly by the security forces which have shown readiness to take the fight against terrorism further in a bid to end violence. Can you give us precise information on what is going on now in the sphere of the security in the face of the spate of recent assassinations?

[Attaf] All I can say about this subject, which is of course not one of my specialities, is that our security forces needed time to familiarize themselves with this phenomenon, which is completely new in our country, before they were able to control and eliminate acts of violence. Thus, the problem, which has something to do with familiarization, is no longer there.

[Slimani] Now, what about the government's dealing with the freedom of the press and journalistic practice in Algeria. Is [the government] intending to control press reports on security matters following the news, which we have just heard, that two dailies have been penalized ?

[Attaf] The government believes, defends, and protects freedom of expression and thought, including the press and pluralism in the press. However, the government cannot accept abuses against the stipulations of the Information Bill and the Anti-Terrorism Bill. It is in the interest of our press to respect these bills. However, the state has been facing a phenomenon which has been trying to shake its stability. And it is right for the state to give itself all the means to face up to such a phenomenon. [passage omitted]

[Slimani] Earlier we dealt with national events currently taking place following the announcement by the state president on the staging of presidential election before the end of 1995. Now we will try to ascertain the Algerian view and movements regarding an important area as far as Algeria is concerned—the Arab Maghreb area, and to know Algeria's views on the current development in the Middle East region. Mr. Ahmed Attaf: Algeria is currently chairman of the Arab Maghreb Union [AMU] and is approaching the end of its term of chairmanship. Within this framework there are several problems relating to hesitation about the progress of the AMU. There is an expected meeting next week of the foreign ministers of the AMU member states and other meetings of Maghreban officials in the economic and education sectors. What are Algeria's views on movement within the framework of this AMU which is facing also some realistic problems?

[Attaf] This joint meeting will be held at an initiative by our country. It should be clear that this meeting is a joint meeting between the foreign ministers and the ministers supervising the Maghreban construction—that is to say the ministers of agriculture, infrastructure, economy and finance, and education. This meeting is very important. Its role is first to make an appraisal of the Maghreban structure, and second to specify and deal with the obstacles which this Maghreban structure is facing. Third it is to submit recommendations and programs of action as well as proposals to the forthcoming presidential council so that decisions will be taken. [passage omitted]

[Slimani] Alright, now with regard to what is known as the obstacles facing Algeria's movement within the framework of the AMU, are there any signs, for example, of bringing viewpoints closer, especially current relations between Algeria and Morocco?

[Attaf] This is a bilateral matter; it cannot be treated within the framework of the AMU. It is a matter that should be treated at bilateral level, and is not on the agenda of this meeting.

[Slimani] Alright, with regard to Algeria, is the question of the Union or the Arab Maghreb—is it for discussion from the angle of the significance given to [certain] countries, as we recently noted in Algeria's move toward a country such as Libya as there are now strong relations and major contacts between the two countries?

[Attaf] We in principle strive to have excellent relations with all the brothers in the area. What we have with Libya is the same as we have with Mauritania and Tunisia. As for Morocco, I believe that we have with Morocco a common aim—the strengthening of bilateral relations. We in principle consider that the strength of any Maghreban country is a factor for the strengthening of the Union as a whole.

[Slimani] One last question with regard to the question of the Arab Maghreb. Is there a tendency to normalize what is known as the visa or the frontier problem between Morocco and Algeria?

[Attaf] As you know we, in Algeria, were not the first to introduce the visa; this was done first by Morocco. The one who is first to take any action is responsible for taking any initiative to renormalize matters.

[Slimani] With regard to what was termed as the event of the Arab Maghreb—the Casablanca [summit] meeting. What concerns us here is Algeria's participation. Were the results arrived at by the Algerian economic delegation positive and is there a clear vision regarding the aims of the states of the region to obtain investments and funds in a specific country?

[Attaf] With regard to our evaluation of Algeria's participation, I personally had a meeting with the leader of the Algerian delegation to this meeting, who is the official concerned with economic reform. The participation was considerable, and we are satisfied with that. Naturally this summit was the first of its kind. No participant expected that a gigantic step would be taken at that summit toward economic integration in the Middle East

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

or the Maghreban area. But that meeting was important because it enabled the participants to talk to each other and ascertain the problems in both areas. That was the first step. We personally were present at that meeting. We noted that obstacles were still many and agreement was not reached on a number of issues. But that was a first considerable step. As for Algeria, we wish to play our part in this process according to the interest of our country.

[Slimani] Well, [there is] an issue which has been extensively put forward during this meeting, and is still being put forward now, i.e. the issue known as normalizing relations with Israel, or lifting the Arab boycott imposed on Israel. In this direction, concerning the Algerian position, we have recently learned that the state of Algeria has lifted the sports boycott in official competitions between Algerians and Israelis. Does Algeria have an orientation in this direction, bearing in mind that countries like Tunisia and Morocco have recently opened Tunisian-Israeli and Moroccan-Israeli liaison bureaux?

[Attaf] The decision which you have referred to has come to deal with a specific matter, i.e. Algerian teams' boycott of Israeli teams in multilateral sports events. It caused penalties [to be imposed] on our teams, the last example of which was that of a school team which was punished by a four-year ban from international competitions. The decision has come to deal with this specific situation. As for political normalization, our principled position is that we prefer this normalization to take place, if it occurs within a collective framework, i.e. the framework of the Arab League; this is the first principle. The second principle is: a comprehensive solution. In the past, we were united in solidarity with Egypt, and Egypt has solved its problems with Israel. We were united in solidarity with Jordan, and Jordan has entered into a peace agreement with Israel. We were united in solidarity with the Palestinians, and the Palestinians have entered into a first phase of talks with Israel. Syria and Lebanon remain, and as long as these two fraternal countries have not recovered their usurped territories, we cannot possibly talk about a comprehensive solution. Thus, the second principle in brief is that: we make a connection between normalization and the just and comprehensive solution to the Middle East issue.

[Slimani] Well, concerning the outside and foreign view, particularly in its relation to what is currently taking place in the Middle East, does a country like Algeria have capabilities, particularly recognized by the foreigners, in the sphere of energy, or even in the sphere of industrial installations? Has the factor of stability, which has been repeated, become for a country like Algeria an obstacle in the face of crystallizing a strategy toward the developments currently taking place in the world?

[Attaf] My reply to this question lies in two points, the first is that it is true that the stability factor affects the possibility of bringing investment into Algeria, but despite this, and I have frequently repeated this figure, we have until today received about $1 billion of foreign investments within the framework of 45 partnership projects with foreigners, despite the current situation. The second figure is that, concerning investments for the Algerian private sector, there are 550 investment projects, estimated by 60 billion dinars, approximately 1.4 billion dinars [as heard], and nearly 40,000 job opportunities, inside the country until today. Despite our current situation, economic activity is in existence. It is true that we should not deny that the security situation has an effect. This $1 billion I have talked about could have been two or three [billion] if Algeria was in a better security situation. [passage omitted]

[Slimani] Well, the last question concerns Algeria and what is happening particularly at the level of economic transformation and the political transformation given that we are heading toward the presidential elections. Mr. Ahmed Attaf, do you believe that the current situation and the current economic discussion among the Algerians on the need to change to market economy and to find the necessary mechanisms for it, do you think this economic and political discussion is effective within the difficult conditions in Algeria and do you believe we will come out of the crisis?

[Attaf] Discussions and the exchange of views are always beneficial and it is in the interest of the country. The contrasting opinions are always beneficial and we believe in this as a principle. We are moving toward the market economy and this is irreversible because it is the only solution that enables our economy to revive itself. As for the results, the results are tangible even now. At our meeting with the IMF to assess the situation last June and September, the assessment of the level of progress achieved by Algeria was very positive. Next year, God willing, we will take another step toward a structual program with the IMF and World Bank which will be a new qualitative leap in respect of the revival of our economy.

Islamic Society Movement Welcomes Elections

LD0911224694 Kuwait KSC Television in Arabic 1800 GMT 9 Nov 94

[Interview with Mahfoud Nahnah, Islamic Society Movement leader, by KSC Television correspondent Ahmed Boubrik in Algiers on 9 November—recorded; first paragraph is introduction]

[FBIS Translated Text] The leader of the Algerian Hamas Movement [Islamic Society Movement], Mahfoud Nahnah, has expressed his support for the decision of President Liamine Zeroual to hold presidential elections. He also expressed his support for the tougher security measures which have been taken to combat violence and terrorism in Algeria. Nahnah made these statements in an interview which our correspondent in Algiers, Ahmed Boubrik, conducted with him today:

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

[Begin recording] [Boubrik] The latest developments on the political arena include what is described by some as the failure of dialogue, the announcement of presidential elections and the adoption of a tougher security policy to combat the armed groups. Mr. Mahfoud Nahnah, leader of the Islamic Society Movement, is one of the political leaders who have clearly expressed their stands.

What is your position about this decision?

[Nahnah] I thank Kuwaiti TV for this kind gesture, now that it has been liberated and it has been freed from foreign domination. The fact is that the situation in Algeria which led to the announcement of presidential elections by the head of state gives a real indication of the genuine desire of the Algerian political parties, the Algerian people, and the presidency of the state to overcome this crisis through a legal channel: namely the return to the elections because the people have the final word at the end of the day if there are any disagreements between parties or between the parties and the state.

We believe that consultation is one of the democratic means which achieve the people's aspirations.

[Boubrik] Some people say that this dialogue has now reached an impasse and others believe that the doors of dialogue remain open. How do you see the dialogue in the future and with whom?

[Nahnah] In fact, those who claim that the door of dialogue has been closed are not worse politically than those who asked for the door of exegesis [interpretation of the Koran and the Sunna] to be closed. Those who have asked for the door of exegesis or the door of dialogue to be closed have more or less asked for the door of civilized behavior between the children of the same homeland, be it one homeland or an Arab homeland to be closed.

In fact, the door of dialogue has not been closed and the door of exegesis has not been closed either and civilized behavior continues. This is the first aspect. As for the second aspect, the issue of dialogue remains open, whether between the parties or between the parties and the authorities because it is not possible for the state to stand alone and to rely on itself to reach dry land and to reach a safe shore at a minimum cost.

[Boubrik] No doubt you have a stand on the major Arab issues. One of these is the crisis between Kuwait and Iraq following Iraq's invasion of Kuwait. What is your position on this issue and what is your position on the recent announcement about Iraq's recognition of Kuwait through Russian mediation?

[Nahnah] In fact, our position on the Arab crisis in general and the crisis between Kuwait, as people and state, and the Iraqi regime, was very clear from the very beginning when the latter launched its aggression on the Kuwaiti leadership and people. The second thing is that this crisis which has led to the intervention of a foreign power to tell the Iraqi regime to recognize the Kuwaiti-Iraqi border proves that things have gone back on track because the recognition of the cultural heritage of any nation is legitimate. The third thing is that we cannot talk about the recognition of these Kuwaiti-Iraqi borders without making a digression to talk about the issue of the prisoners who are suffering in Iraqi jails. Now that the cold winter is on our doors, this subject must be looked into and these families must be heard so that their children who are held prisoner are returned home.

[Boubrik] With these political issues which are being seriously raised here in Algeria and despite what is happening daily, the only hope for the ordinary people is an end to violence. From Ahmed Boubrik, for Kuwaiti TV, in Algiers. [end recording]

Liberation Front Rejects Eradication Policy

MM1011110194 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 10 Nov 94 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Liberation Front Party Blames Authorities for Suspension of Dialogue"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Paris, London, AL-HAYAH—[passage omitted] In Algeria the "Algerian Liberation Front Party" has blamed the authorities for the suspension of the dialogue and the resumption of the eradication policy. The party rejected violence, partial solutions to the Algerian crisis, and the organization of a presidential election called for by President Liamine Zeroual.

A statement issued by the Front's Political Bureau, which held meetings on 7 and 8 November, said that the Bureau had studied the general situation in the country, now immersed more than ever in the cycle of violence and the tragedies and brutality resulting from it in addition to the violation of the Constitution and the laws. And it is also exposed to economic and social disruptions, hence the misery resulting from them.

The statement added: "The people had hoped that the authorities who have ruled the country since the suspension of the democratic course would open the door to the hope of extricating the country from the policy of armed confrontation among Algerians."

UGTA Backs MCB With General Strike

LD0911201694 Algiers ENTV Television Network in Arabic 1900 GMT 9 Nov 94

[[FBIS Translated Text] In response to the appeal of the Berber Cultural Movement [MCB], the Tizi Ouzou branch of the General Union of Algerian Workers [UGTA] has announced a general strike starting from Saturday 12 November for three days.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Egypt

Musa on Iraq-Kuwait, U.S. Elections, Other Issue

NC0911161294 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 1500 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa has declared that Egypt is following up the ongoing contacts seeking a formal Iraqi recognition of Kuwait. He said the important thing is the recognition, something Egypt has been pressing for since the Iraqi-Kuwaiti crisis began.

Musa explained that Egypt views this recognition as the first step that will pave the way for handling the Iraqi issue from a fresh perspective.

Commenting on another issue pertaining to Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin's announcement that he intends to grant further power to the Palestinian Authority, Musa said that this can be viewed as an implementation of the Israeli-Palestinian Agreement and a sound step on the right path. He added that this measure must be followed by other steps to facilitate the Palestinian elections and the redeployment of Israeli forces in the occupied West Bank in line with the same agreement.

The foreign minister remarked that the Palestinian-Israeli negotiations will resume in Cairo next week for additional debates on the issue of the Palestinian legislative elections.

Musa also said the volatile Jerusalem issue can only be defused through negotiations.

Regarding the results of the U.S. mid-term elections and whether they might influence U.S. foreign policy, Musa observed: We expect no change in the firm U.S. foreign policy on the peace process.

The foreign minister said that U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher will tour the Middle East countries to boost the peace effort.

Scientific Cooperation Deal Signed With Israel

NC0911193594 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1740 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, 9 Nov (MENA)—Egypt and Israel have noted the importance of exchanging scientific and technological research, saying it paves the way for building confidence and respect between the two sides. This came in a joint statement issued in Egypt and Israel today following the visit to Israel by Scientific Research Minister Dr. Venice Kamil Judah and her talks with the Israeli minister of communications, science, and arts, Shulamit Aloni.

The statement reiterates the significance of the just and comprehensive peace process in the Middle East initiated by the late President Anwar al-Sadat and promoted by President Husni Mubarak. This process has enabled the Egyptian and israeli officials to exchange visits, the statement adds.

The Egyptian-Israeli statement notes that during the visit, which concluded yesterday, the two sides agreed on cooperating in the fields of technology, food industry, and environmental affairs. They further agreed on cooperating in the fields of vital technology and electronics. The two sides agreed that cooperation in this field should take place by specifying short and long-term objectives and that this cooperation should involve other countries in the region.

Ministers Judah and Aloni stressed that this cooperation should be implemented within the context of the executive program of the cultural, educational, and scientific protocol signed between the two countries on 25 January.

Dr. Judah returned from Israel yesterday following the two-day visit.

Protocol on Energy Cooperation Signed With Russia

NC0911164194 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1437 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Cairo, 9 Nov (MENA)—Egypt and the Russian Federation today signed a memorandum of understanding specifying the aspects of cooperation in the fields of electricity and energy.

The electricity and energy minister, Engineer Mahir Abazah, signed the memorandum for Egypt and Oleg Davydov, minister for foreign economic relations, signed for Russia.

Abazah stated that the memorandum provides for cooperation in the fields of the transfer of technology, training programs for Egyptian technicians, and the export of Russian spare parts to Egypt for use in electric power generation and distribution projects.

He added that agreement was reached to establish joint projects for the manufacture of electrical equipment and the replacement of worn out components in the national electric grid. [passage omitted]

Writer Warns Against Dangers of Middle East Market

NC0711131194 Cairo AKHBAR AL-YAWM in Arabic 5 Nov 94 p 20

["Toward Tomorrow" column by Husayn Fahmi]

[FBIS Translated Text] A few weeks ago, we warned against turning Arab nationalism into Middle Eastern nationalism. Last week was teeming with dangerous reports and trends that are suspicious and send off alarm bells. The leaders of the opposition and national forces in Egypt renewed their condemnation of the Casablanca

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

summit, which ended on Tuesday 1 November. In their statement, the opposition forces decided to confront the decisions of the summit, which supports the concept of Middle Eastern regionalism in agreement with Zionist views. They agreed in their meeting during the Liberal Party's congress that the nation is in danger and that its representatives and youths should be asked—now more than ever before—to be alert and progressive and to work on eliminating the Zionist danger, which is looming.

The opposition issued a statement in which it asked the Arab and Egyptian Governments to fear God and protect their people and to declare their withdrawal from this suspect conference, which is being convened under the sponsorship of the United States—the ultimate strategic ally of Israel. The statement affirmed the need for forming a national front on the Egyptian and Arab levels to confront the dangers arising from the Casablanca summit and the Zionist enemy. It also asked that the Zionist entity not be accepted as a member of the region. At the same time, it called for concerted action in the region to revive joint Arab action through its institutions. It stressed that opposition leaders and political forces should unite in rejecting normalization, the Middle Eastern market, and Zionist hegemony.

At the same time, U.S. President Clinton pledged to Israel in his speech before the Knesset that the whole of the United States is backing it, that it will open the doors of advanced technology for Israel, and that it will cooperate closely with Israel in weapons research and development.

This comes at the height of the danger of Arab division, following Iraq's 1990 invasion of Kuwait. What a disappointment for the Arabs and what a compounded danger threatens the whole Arab nation.

Let the Arabs wake up, unite their words, and return to a united rank, otherwise all these catastrophes will befall them.

Court Sentences 3 in Escape of al-Jihad Figure

NC0911150894 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1340 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, 9 Nov (MENA)—Cairo's Higher State Security Court, Emergency Division, handed down prison sentences today in the case of the escape from custody in 1991 of terrorist Safwat 'Abd-al-Ghani, a leading al-Jihad figure. 'Abd-al-Ghani received a five-year jail term with hard labor, defendant Ghanim al-Sayyid Ghanim was jailed for three years, Samir Sanad was jailed for one year, and defendant Mustafa Ibrahim Amin was acquitted of the charge against him.

The Prosecution Office had referred the defendants to court on a charge of covering up for and giving refuge to defendant Safwat 'Abd-al-Ghani following his 1991 escape. 'Abd-al-Ghani was being held in custody in connection with the assassination of [former People's Assembly Speaker] Dr. Rif'at al-Mahjub when he escaped as he was being transported from his Cairo jail to al-Minya to sit an examination at al-Minya's College of Arts. Defendant Ghanim al-Sayyid Ghanim gave him shelter with the help of the other defendants, who were also accused of supplying 'Abd-al-Ghani with a forged identity card and of possessing unlicensed firearms.

Surur Reelected Speaker of New People's Assembly

NC0911134194 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1135 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, 9 Nov (MENA)—Dr. Ahmad Fathi Surur has been reelected People's Assembly speaker for the new parliamentary session for the fifth time in a row. This is the last session in the People's Assembly's current term.

Dr. Surur won 427 votes—and this is the total number of the members who voted.

Reaction to Abolition of Laws Viewed

NC0911212894 Cairo AL-AHRAM WEEKLY in English 3 Nov 94 p 1

[Article by Nivin Khalil: "A Step for Democracy"]

[FBIS Translated Text] President Husni Mubarak, in a move designed to "consolidate the exercise of democracy" last Friday scrapped a number of laws issued under the late President al-Sadat, which had given the executive exceptional powers in curtailing political opposition, and which the opposition had since dubbed "infamous laws".

Responding to the recommendations of the Conference of the National Dialogue last July, Mubarak also introduced amendments to electoral law and political parties law, with the aim of enhancing political participation in the democratic process.

Opposition leaders, interviewed by AL-AHRAM WEEKLY, welcomed the measures, but complained they remained short of their expectations and of the recommendations made at the national dialogue conference.

In making the move, Mubarak used his prerogative under the constitution to issue decrees that have the force of law during parliamentary recess. These decrees are subject to later ratification by parliament, but members of the ruling National Democratic Party [NDP], which has an overwhelming parliamentary majority, are confident the People's Assembly will confirm the decree-laws once it resumes its sessions on 9 November.

The presidential decree-laws stripped the Socialist Prosecutor-General of all his powers in the political sphere, maintaining only his authority in taking measures against corruption and financial fraud. The post was established in 1971 by al-Sadat, who claimed it was

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

designed to safeguard the people's "socialist achievements". Also annulled were a 1978 law on "the protection of the internal front and social peace" and a 1980 law on "the protection of ethics", popularly known as the "law of shame".

The decree-laws also introduced amendments to a 1956 law on the "exercise of political rights", a 1971 law on the "imposition of sequestration and ensuring the safety of the people" and a 1977 law regulating the establishment of political parties.

As a result, the Socialist Prosecutor General was stripped of the power to ban certain candidates from running in parliamentary or local governmental elections, membership of the boards of companies, organisations and newspapers or the establishment of political parties on the grounds that they were involved in the dissemination of malicious or false information.

The Socialist Prosecutor was also stripped of the power to place certain persons in confinement "in a safe place", until the "Court of Ethics" rules on the accusations that they acted against the people's interest or their socialist achievements.

The Socialist Prosecutor did retain his authority to sequestrate, or temporarily impound, monies and properties of accused persons until the Court of Ethics hands out its verdict. These powers have, in recent years, been used only in cases involving corruption and financial fraud, such as in the cases of so-called Islamic money investments companies.

The names of the would-be founders of a political party will no longer be sent to the Socialist Prosecutor, but to the speakers of the People's Assembly and the Shura [Consultative] Council.

Moreover, the voter-registration period, which was previously confined to December of each year, was prolonged to three months—November, December and January. And a fine collected from registered voters who fail to exercise their voting right was upped from LE1 [one Egyptian pound] to 20.

Prime Minister 'Atif Sidqi praised Mubarak's action as a "consolidation of the exercise of democracy and the march of freedom, the path chosen by the President ever since he came to power."

Dr Zaki abu-'Amir, minister of state for parliamentary affairs, said Mubarak's action was in response to the recommendations issued by the National Dialogue Conference in July. But Abu-'Amir noted that the cancelled powers of the Socialist Prosecutor had never been put in force during Mubarak's regime.

Rif'at, secretary-general of the leftist [National Progressive Unionist Party] (Tajammu) [NPUG] which leads the opposition in the current parliament, said the cancellation of the "infamous laws" was an important step because they were "like a sword hanging over the people's necks." But he said the issues of the voter-registration lists and election procedures were even more important and should have been addressed. "We need laws to ensure clean elections under complete judicial supervision... We need voter lists that do not include mythical names," he said.

Al-Sa'id also welcomed the curtailment of the Socialist Prosecutor's powers as a "very important and positive step. We appreciate this step because Tajammu has always had a problem with the Socialist Prosecutor General who frequently objected to blue collars," he said, referring to the prosecutor's record of banning many left-wing candidates in trade union elections.

The presidential decrees were also welcomed by Yasin Siraj al-Din, a spokesman for the Wafd Party, who said they were bound to promote greater democracy. He protested, however, that they are "only a fraction" of the Wafd's demands at the National Dialogue Conference. He reiterated the opposition demand that elections should be placed under complete judicial supervision. As for the voter registration period, which Mubarak has extended to three months instead of one, Siraj al-Din expressed the view that this should be made possible throughout the year.

The Islamist-oriented Labour Party was totally unmoved by the reforms however. "Marching in place" was the expression used by party leader Ibrahim Shukri, to describe the decree-laws. Shukri also attached greater importance to reforming the election process to ensure "that all the loopholes in the democratic process are closed."

Shukri also played down the importance of curtailing the Socialist Prosecutor's powers, declaring that the emergency law, "by suffocating any attempts at political participation or activity," was much more harmful.

For Nasserist Democratic Party leader Diya' al-Din Dawud, the reforms were cause for optimism, but were in themselves "very modest". "It's a small step," he said, but expressed the belief that it would lead to further reforms in the electoral process and greater political freedoms. Like other opposition parties, the Nasserists would like the reforms to focus on the judicial supervision of the elections and also on "cleansing" the voter registration lists: "Registration, counting and supervision of elections remain at the core of our demands," Dawud said.

But for Ahmad Abu-Zayd, the NDP majority leader in the People's Assembly, the decree-laws are a "dose of reforms that is appropriate to the phase Egypt is passing through. They are a step toward greater democracy. There are those (the opposition) who want more, but they should change their attitude first."

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Libya

Al-Qadhdhafi Gives Speech to Popular Commands

LD0911223294

[FBIS Editorial Report] Tripoli Libyan Television Network in Arabic at 1936 GMT on 9 November broadcasts a recording of a 57-minute speech by Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to Popular Commands in Tripoli Center on 7 November 94.

The Libyan leader dwells on a number of problems facing the newly established Popular Commands in Tripoli Center. He focuses on their tasks in motivating the masses and how to organize themselves locally. He repeats his proposal to give oil money directly to Libyan families if the latter are prepared to opt out of the state services. He cites the figue of $5000 to each family a year if the families pay for all services themselves, like health, education, transport, and security services. He also suggests that students should pay a fee to their universities: If every student at the al- Fatih University had paid 400 dinars a year the university would have financially self-sufficient, he contends.

He also repeats his call on Libyans to punish those who break the law by tarnishing their reputation and the honor of their families.

Al-Qadhdhafi Meets Popular Leadership of Tripoli

LD0911112994 Tripoli JANA in English 1033 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tripoli, al Harth [November] 9, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—In reaffirmation of absolute commitment to the thought of the revolution and the pledge to act towards the consolidation of people's authority and the build-up of the exemplary Jamahiriyah which is the future of mankind..

In renewal of allegiance to the leader and declaration of challenge for the blockade and the confrontation of challenges and the creation of the future.

In embodiment of the eternal association between the masses and the leader.

The leader of the revolution has received the popular leaderships in Tripoli al Markaz, which confirmed through its clamour that the leader and the revolution will be defended by the lives and that there is no retreat from the people's authority and that no blockade and no Western threats will make the people of this nation deviate from the creation of progress over the Arab Libyan land.

The leader of the revolution spoke to the popular leaderships in Tripoli al Markaz and clarified the tasks and responsibilities cast on the shoulder of these leaderships in mobilizing the masses to confront the enemies of the nation and consolidate people's power, the power of everyone and the build-up of the ideal exemplary Jamahiriyah.

The popular leaderships delivered a speech saying that they are much aware than anyone else with the value of the revolution, and the significance of the historical revolutionary transformations brought about. The speech by the popular leaderships added... Accordingly we feel the heavy burden of responsibility cast on us to make of Tripoli the front line for jihad and martyrdom, and the responsibility to transform Tripoli into another Hanoi by steadfast resistance and the responsibility to transform Tripoli to an Arabic Geneva as a symbol of progress in peace.

The popular leaderships in Tripoli al Markaz presented during the meeting the programme of action and a number of work papers, studies and researches concerning a number of local issues and their solutions, which had been prepared by experts and qualified specialists in Tripoli al Markaz.

Paper Criticizes 'Scramble' To Recognize Israel

LD0911150794 Tripoli JANA in English 1436 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tripoli, Al-Harth [November] 9, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—The JAMAHIRIYAH newspaper confirmed that Arab nationals are no longer able to digest what is going on as Arab regimes scramble to acknowledge the Israeli enemy. This means that they are ignoring and are totally indifferent to the Arab League, its charter and [words indistinct] resolutions concerning the Arab-Zionist conflict.

The newspaper today indicated that the card of Arab boycott of the Israeli enemy was once an effective and efficient pressure card and an active weapon in the historical confrontation with the enemy because it was adopted unanimously as the Arab League charter does not allow any member state to act singularly. Such a position might signal the end of Arab solidarity.

The newspaper asked how the Arab League would respond to this state of dismemberment: Will it remain a mere front or a memorial to a past and defeated Arab era or will it become on the level of the situation and freeze the membership of any violators.

Visiting Greek Party Leader Condemns Sanctions

LD0811145494 Tripoli Great Jamahiriyah Radio Network in Arabic 1230 GMT 8 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The secretary of the General People's Congress met with Akis Tsokhatzopoulos, secretary-general of the Greek Pasok party, this morning. Tsokhatzopoulos is on a visit to the Great Jamahiriyah.

The brother secretary [of General People's Congress] stressed during the meeting the importance of relations

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

between the Great Jamahiriyah and Greece and the need to bolster them to the benefit of the two friendly peoples.

Akis Tsokhatzopoulos condemned the unjust measures imposed on the Great Jamahiriyah by the so-called [UN] Security Council, and reaffirmed his country's wish to bolster bilateral relations in all fields in a way that would realize common interests.

Promoting cooperation between the secretariat of the General People's Congress and the Greek Pasok party was discussed during the meeting.

Sudan

Kenyan Envoy Pays Visit, Meets With Officials

Meets Assembly Speaker

EA2910191594 Omdurman Republic of Sudan Radio Network in Arabic 1500 GMT 29 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Mr. Muhammad al-Amin Khalifah, the speaker of the Transitional National Assembly [TNA], reiterated the government's commitment to the Intergovernmental Authority on Drought and Development [IGADD] initiative to bring peace to the country and to a peaceful solution to the southern issue. He said this today when he met at his office in the TNA premises Dr. Zachary Onyonka, Kenyan President Moi's envoy and minister of research, technical training and technology.

The Kenyan envoy said that his country and the IGADD group were working for the realization of peace in Sudan on the basis of their concern for regional peace. He pointed out that his efforts were connected with the humanitarian aspect and the search for a positive understanding that would make it possible to return to the negotiation table. He expressed the hope that his visit would have a positive outcome.

For his part, Mr. Khalifah said that the right of self-determination raised by the rebels was not within the competence of the IGADD group. His excellency reviewed all the efforts made so far to achieve peace. He praised the IGADD Initiative and the efforts of Kenya's Daniel arap Moi. Mr. Khalifah also touched on the efforts to achieve peace from within the country.

Meanwhile the Kenyan president's envoy met Mr. Angelo Beda, the TNA deputy speaker, and the two reviewed the efforts to achieve peace in the south.

Meets With Minister al-Din

EA3110164094 Omdurman Republic of Sudan Radio Network in Arabic 1300 GMT 31 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Dr. Ghazi Salah al-Din, minister of state for the presidency of the Republic, met Dr. Zachary Onyonka, emissary of Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi and chairman of the peace committee set up by the Intergovernmental Authority on Drought and Development [IGADD] summit, today at his Republican Palace office. They discussed the future of the peace talks supervised by the IGADD states and exchanged views on some fundamental issues arising from the recent talks in Nairobi. They also discussed means of making the IGADD initiative effective and strong. Dr. Ghazi Salah al-Din said they had discussed ways of creating new proposals to be presented in the forthcoming rounds of talks.

Discusses Peace Talks With Taha

EA0211110594 Omdurman Republic of Sudan Radio Network in Arabic 1730 GMT 1 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Mr. Ali 'Uthman Muhammad Taha, the minister for social planning, has stressed Sudan's eagerness to see the success of African mediation in resolving the southern problem through the quadripartite initiative of the Intergovernmental Authority on Drought and Development states.

He said Sudan respected all efforts aimed at ending the war in the south but on condition that they conformed to and were consistent with national unity and the federal system which includes the equitable distribution of power and wealth without discrimination based on race, religion or disagreement.

At his meeting yesterday with Dr. Zachary Onyonka, the minister for research, science and technology, and an envoy of the Kenyan president and chairman of his country's delegation to the peace talks, who is currently visiting the country, Mr. Ali 'Uthman Muhammad Taha stressed that none of the factions of the rebel movement currently involved in internecine fighting desired peace, and that they were endeavoring to submit an agenda not unanimously endorsed which advocated secularism and the secession of the south. He said the Sudanese Government considered these issues non-negotiable.

The minister of social planning expressed Sudan's appreciation of and confidence in the efforts made by Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi. The minister gave the Kenyan president's envoy an extensive briefing on the government's efforts to achieve peace from within the country, and on the on-going efforts to strengthen this process.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

In reply, the personal envoy of the Kenyan president praised the efforts of the Sudanese Government and its genuine desire to attain a comprehensive, just, and lasting peace.

Received by al-Bashir

EA0311174594 Omdurman Republic of Sudan Radio Network in Arabic 1300 GMT 3 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Lieutenant General 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir, president of the Republic, this morning met in his office at the General Command of the People's Armed Forces, Mr. Zachary Onyonka, envoy of Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi. The Kenyan envoy explained that he had visited Juba town and a number of southern areas and had acquainted himself with the conditions there. He expressed optimism that the peace negotiations between the government and the rebel movement would continue, pointing out that he would meet the rebel movement [as heard] and explain to them what he had seen in the country.

Moreover, Lt. Gen. al-Bashir renewed his confidence in the Intergovernmental Authority on Drought and Development states' initiative headed by Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi.

Meets Southern Leaders

EA0711205094 Omdurman National Unity Radio in Arabic 1730 GMT 7 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The governor of Western Bahr al-Ghazal State, Mr. Ali Tamim Fartak, has announced that the meeting between Kenyan envoy Dr. Zachary Onyonka and southern leaders, including officers of the Peoples Armed Forces, in Khartoum confirmed the Kenyan envoy's conviction that the Sudanese People's Liberation Army rebel movement is not a legitimate representative of the citizens in the southern states. The governor said the Kenyan envoy was astonished by the southern people's commitment to national unity and the non-balkanization of Sudan. He said the governments of the southern states had demonstrated their ability to provide citizens with basic services. He said most of the southern leaders who took part in the meeting confirmed their commitment to national unity, to the federal system of governance, the revolution's peace program, and to the principles of the National Salvation Revolution, which has protected the rights of the Sudanese man. [passage omitted]

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Kuwait

UN Security Council Meeting on Iraq Previewed

LD0811172594 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1430 GMT 8 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Kuwait, 8 November—The Foreign Affairs Ministry's undersecretary, Sulayman Majid al-Shahin, stressed today that Kuwait considers all international resolutions of parallel importance that the Iraqi regime cannot choose to implement one at the expense of the rest of the resolutions.

Undersecretary al-Shahin emphasized the inevitability of verifying and ascertaining Iraqi peaceful orientations towards the official and constitutional commitment to the totality of the international conditions and clauses as "it is entirely insufficient, and completely unacceptable for the Iraqi regime to inform the Security Council of its peaceful readiness to cooperate in complying with the international demands, and then contradict its words by its deeds through its recent military concentrations against Kuwait."

This was reported in a statement to KUNA by a responsible source at the Foreign Affairs Ministry, quoting al-Shahin, during his separate meeting today with the ambassadors of the permanent and non-permanent member-countries of the UN Security Council, those of the Damascus Declaration, and those of the EU accredited to Kuwait.

Al-Shahin yesterday held separate meetings with the ambassadors of Indonesia, in its capacity as the chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement; Senegal, in its capacity as the chairman of the Islamic Conference Organization; and Tunisia, in its capacity as the chairman of the OAU, within the context of the Kuwaiti intensive diplomatic move at the internal [as received] level before the Security Council's forthcoming regular review of its sanctions imposed on Iraq.

The source mentioned that al-Shahin's meetings with the ambassadors dealt clearly with the importance of the Security Council's forthcoming meeting on 14 November which would look into the report of the UN committee in charge of destroying Iraq's weapons of mass destruction, the discussion of which was postponed from 10 October. [passage omitted]

Verbal Recognition Not 'Sufficient'

LD0911132694 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1130 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Kuwait City, 9 Nov (KUNA)—Muhammad Abu al-Hasan, Kuwait's permanent delegate to the United Nations, commented today on the letter concerning Iraq's recognition of the State of Kuwait. He said that "unless the recognition is written in a document, the statements coming from Moscow again express only intentions and we can deal with these only as such."

In an interview with Kuwaiti television, conducted via satellite and broadcast today, Abu al-Hasan added that "unless this is translated into practical steps through a law issued by the Iraqi Revolution Command Council and by the Iraqi National Assembly, and unless this law is published in the official gazette and is sent to the United Nations in a letter signed by the Iraqi foreign minister committing all the legislative and executive powers to accept Kuwait's sovereignty and independence and its borders as demarcated in Resolution 833, the statements coming from Moscow again express [only] intentions."

He went to say that "the recent provocations by the Iraqi regime near Kuwait's border not only exposed the tricks and revealed the spuriousness of Iraq's commitments, they also destroyed what remained of the trust which some still had in Iraq, including its supporters."

Abu al-Hasan added that "if the Iraqi Government presents a letter about its recognition of Kuwait's sovereignty and borders in the way which we want and which the Security Council wants, I believe that the [Security] Council will regard this as a step in the right direction. However, this step [alone] will not be sufficient for the Security Council to announce that it will reward Iraq either by easing the sanctions or by specifying a time limit for monitoring the destruction of [Iraqi] weapons."

He also indicated that next Monday, the Security Council will review all of Iraq's commitments resulting from its aggression against the State of Kuwait, starting with the issue of recognition and the borders and also the issue of [Kuwaiti] prisoners and detainees, the destruction of weapons of mass destruction, the payment of damages, and the renunciation of terrorism.

He added: "I do not think that the members of the [Security] Council will find that there is sufficient reason to change the regime of sanctions, either by easing them or ending them."

U.S. Troop Withdrawal From North Viewed

LD0911121394 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1104 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Kuwait, 9 Nov (KUNA)—The 'AL-WATAN' newspaper today quoted a responsible source at the Kuwaiti Defense Ministry as saying today that there is a prepared plan for the redeployment of all Kuwaiti brigades with utmost speed on the northern border in order to confront any new Iraqi danger if they are withdrawn at present or in the future.

The source said that the operation to withdraw the U.S. land forces stationed in Kuwait will be coordinated between the Kuwaiti and U.S. Defense Ministries, but he stressed that the withdrawal operation, which could be completed before 22 December, will not include marine or airborne forces, or any other units which were present before the recent Iraqi provocations on 7 October last.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

The source said that the withdrawal operation will not include some of the reinforcements which have been added to the U.S. air force in the region, particularly the fighter planes.

Concerning the degree of alert which has been applied to all units of the Kuwaiti Army after the crisis, the source said that the degree of alert has been reduced to to the level pertaining at the beginning of the recent Iraqi provocations, stressing the existence of a plan concerning a gradually reduced degree of alert in accordance with fully considered steps and periods.

Oman

Japanese Prince Arrives From Saudi Arabia

JN0911114294 Muscat Radio Oman Network in Arabic 1300 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] His Imperial Highness Prince Naruhito, the Japanese crown prince, and his wife, Her Imperial Highness Princess Masako, arrived in the country today on an official three-day visit to the Sultanate of Oman. His Majesty the sultan's special representative led those who received the Japanese crown prince and the accompanying delegation upon his arrival at the airport. [passage omitted]

Saudi Arabia

Japanese Crown Prince, Princess Leave Riyadh

LD0911132394 Riyadh Saudi Arabian Kingdom Radio Network in Arabic 1130 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] His Imperial Highness Prince Naruhito, the Japanese crown prince, and his wife Princess Masako, have left Riyadh this afternoon after a four-day official visit to the kingdom. [passage omitted]

Japanese Official Calls GCC Talks 'Positive'

LD0911135494 Riyadh SPA in English 1240 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Nov 9, SPA—Head of the Japanese delegation at the first conference for the Gulf and and Japanese businessmen Yushi Hisa Ogimni said discussion at the conference were held in a "positive atmosphere." Addressing a press conference here last night, Ogimni said the conference should be followed by further contacts so as to turn the words and ideas into deeds.

For his part, Saudi Industry and Electric Power Minister 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Zamil, who is also the head of the Gulf side at the conference, said it had underscored the importance of increasing direct Japanese investments in the field of industry in the GCC [Gulf Cooperation Council] states as well as facilitating transfer of technology and development of the human resources.

Al-Zamil said the conference had called for increasing export of the Gulf non-petroleum industrial products to Japan. He said the decision of the Japanese Government to encourage industrial investments in the Arab Gulf region constituted a turning point in economic relations between the Gulf region and Japan.

Yemen

Salih Visits Lahij Governorate, Renames Base

JN0811091794 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0430 GMT 8 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Brother Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and supreme commander of the Armed Forces, has visited the Lahij Governorate. He was welcomed in al-Hawtah by Lahij Governor brother 'Abdallah Bamitlib, Deputy Governor brother Naji al-Dulaymi, and governorate officials.

The brother president met with the members of the executive bureau, the governorate officials, shaykhs, notables, and representatives of the political parties and groupings.

Addressing them, the brother president said he was extremely happy to be meeting with the brother members of the executive bureau, the intellectuals, shaykhs, and notables in the heroic Lahij Governorate. [passage omitted]

In his address, the brother president referred to the stands of the secessionist elements. He said that the secessionist elements actions during the sedition do not reflect the stands of the sons of this heroic governorate, and that the secessionist clique represents only itself. President Salih added: Our visit to this governorate is to pay tribute to its sons because I know they are brave and loyal to the revolution and unity. [passage omitted]

The brother president called on the elements which still have weapons that were given to them by the secessionists to quickly hand them over to the security bodies since they are the property of the people and should remain in the hands of the security bodies which are tasked to safeguard the people's security and the homeland's stability. The brother president called on the sons of the governorate and its security bodies to be alert and confront any attempt to harm the sons of this governorate or the safety of the citizens and the stability of the homeland. The president called on the brothers who benefited from the general amnesty law and who returned to their work to interact with the nation's causes and not to shatter the hopes pinned on them.

Brother Lieutenant 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and supreme commander of the Armed Forces, has also visited the al-'Anad military base. He was welcomed by the base commander and its officers.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

The brother president inspected the officers, NCO's, and soldiers of the 3d Infantry Brigade and the 30th Brigade and was briefed on the training programs, the morale, self-discipline, and military performance in the camp.

The brother president spoke to the members of the base. He said he was happy to visit al-'Anad base and meet with the members of the 3d Infantry Brigade and the 30th Brigade. He praised the steps achieved in the sphere of completely merging the forces in the base and the Armed Forces. He said that from now on, the al-'Anad base will be called the 7 July Base. [passage omitted]

Ex-President To Hold 'Consultations' With Salih

MM1011144294 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 10 Nov 94 pp 1, 4

[Interview with former South Yemeni President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad by Ibrahim Humaydi in Damascus; date not given—first three grafs newspaper introduction]

[FBIS Translated Excerpts] Former [South] Yemeni President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad has confirmed that he will go to Yemen from Damascus before the end of the month to visit Sanaa for the first time since he left it before the establishment of unity between the two parts of Yemen on 22 May 1990. He will also visit Aden for the first time since he left it following the January 1986 incidents.

In an interview with AL-HAYAH in Damascus he pointed out that he will attend the ceremony marking the anniversary of the south's independence from Britain and the opening of the "Strategic Studies Center" in Yemen. [passage omitted]

'Ali Nasir stressed his refusal to assume any political post. He said that he has turned down "many offers to assume direct responsibilities" from senior Yemeni officials. "What I am interested in at the moment is stability in Yemen and the area." However, he said that he will hold consultations with political forces and President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih to discuss "views and ideas concerning Yemen's present and future," hinting that he is going to play a political role without assuming a government post. [passage omitted]

[Humaydi] Why have you been silent since the 7 July military settlement?

[Muhammad] I have not spoken because I believe the country needs stability and efforts to surmount the effects of the war. However, I have made direct contacts with senior officials, first and foremost President 'Ali Salih and all political forces, in order to contribute to reinforcing national unity, surmounting the effects of the war, and rebuilding what the war has destroyed. [passage omitted]

[Humaydi] Are you satisfied with your supporters' participation in the government?

[Muhammad] I do not know how I could not be satisfied with the inclusion of many of my friends and supporters in power. Of course I am. In fact I contacted brother Major General 'Abd-Rabbuh Mansur Hadi when he was appointed vice president, wishing him success in his new tasks.

[Humaydi] What is your opinion of the Socialist Party's joining the opposition?

[Muhammad] That is their decision. It was taken by the party's leadership. [passage omitted]

[Humaydi] Do you expect the Yemeni opposition forces conference to succeed in playing a certain political role?

[Muhammad] The door is wide open to the opposition to operate inside the country. I believe that everyone should work in this vast arena and participate in shouldering the burdens of struggle in order to launch the democratic experiment and consolidate it in Yemen and among the people to avoid any negative complications that might affect their unionist march and the future of the homeland and the people. [passage omitted]

Mine Explodes in Shabwah, Kills 10 Engineers

JN0911185494 Baghdad INA in English 1450 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Sanaa, Nov 9 (INA)—A mine explosion killed ten Yemeni engineers when they tried to defuse it. The mine was found in Shabwah Province in eastern Yemen. It was left there during the recent civil war. All the dead engineers were military. The secessionists planted large numbers of mines near the eastern and southern Yemeni cities, killing many Yemeni citizens.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

National Assembly Recognizes Kuwait

JN1011130694 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1258 GMT 10 Nov 94

Baghdad, 10 Nov (INA)—The National Assembly this morning held an extraordinary session to discuss relationship between Iraq and the UN Security Council. The session was attended by Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev; Tariq 'Aziz, Revolution Command Council member and deputy prime minister; and Foreign Minister Muhammad Sa'id al-Sahhaf. Following the session, the National Assembly issued a statement on the subject.

National Assembly Speaker Sa'di Mahdi Salih has informed the Presidency of the text of the Assembly statement.

Following is the text of the National Assembly's statement:

The National Assembly held an extraordinary session on 7 Jumada al-Akhir, 1415 Hegira, corresponding to 10 November, 1994. After discussing the relationship between Iraq and the Security Council and in order to stress Iraq's peace intentions and its eagerness to maintain peace, security, and stability and establish relations of goodneighborliness based on mutual respect for security, sovereignty, and legitimate interests, the National Assembly declares its support for the recognition by the Republic of Iraq of the State of Kuwait's sovereignty, territorial integrity, and political independence in compliance with UN Security Council Resolution 833 of 1993.

The National Assembly also supports the Republic of Iraq's recognition of the international borders between the Republic of Iraq and the State of Kuwait, as demarcated by the UN Iraq-Kuwait Border Demarcation Committee formed in accordance with Paragraph 3 of Resolution 687 of 1991. It also declares its respect for the inviolability of the said borders.

RCC Endorses Recognition

JN1011134094 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1310 GMT 10 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Baghdad, 10 Nov (INA)—President Saddam Husayn has chaired a meeting of the Revolution Command Council [RCC] during which the RCC took note of the National Assembly declaration.

The RCC has issued the following decree: As an expression of the desire of the Republic of Iraq to respect the UN Charter and international law; in harmony with the Republic of Iraq's commitment to full compliance with all relevant UN Security Council Resolutions; to prove Iraq's peaceful intentions and its intention to work for establishing peace, security, and stability in the region and establishing good-neighborly relations on the basis of mutual respect for security, sovereignty, and legitimate interests; reaffirming RCC Decree No. 55 issued on 5 March 1991; taking into consideration the National Assembly's decision issued at the special session on 20 March 1991; taking into consideration consideration the National Assembly's declaration on 10 November 1994; and in accordance with the clauses of Paragraph A of Article 42 of the Constitution, the RCC has decided the following:

1. The Republic of Iraq recognizes the State of Kuwait's sovereignty, territorial integrity, and political independence [ta'tarif jumhuriyat al-'iraq bisiyadat dawlat al-kuwait wa salamataha al-iqlimiyah wa istiqlalaha al-siyasi].

2. In compliance with UN Security Council Resolution No. 833 of 1993, the Republic of Iraq recognizes the international borders between the Republic of Iraq and the State of Kuwait, as demarcated by the UN Iraq-Kuwait Border Demarcation Committee, formed under Paragraph 3 of Resolution 687 of 1991 and respects the inviolability of the above borders.

3. The ministries and competent parties shall see to the implementation of this decree.

4. This decree shall be implemented as of 10 November 1994 and shall be published in the Official Gazette.

[Signed] Saddam Husayn, chairman of the RCC

Saddam Briefs Cabinet

JN1011133394 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1325 GMT 10 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Baghdad, 10 Nov (INA)—President Saddam Husayn has chaired a meeting of the Council of Ministers.

His excellency briefed the ministers on the National Assembly's declaration and the Revolution Command Council's [RCC] decree.

Reaction Continues to Iranian Air Attack on MKO

Clandestine Radio Reports Raid

NC0911154294 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi People in Arabic 1500 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Iranian fighter planes today launched an attack against bases said to belong to the Iranian opposition group, the Mojahedin-e-Khalq [MKO], inside Iraqi territory. The attack is the second of its kind by the Iranian forces this week.

Citing Iranian military sources, REUTERS said the aircraft returned safely after carrying out the attack.

Iran, which recently carried out another attack on an MKO camp on Iraqi territory, has protested to the Iraqi regime over the military support it provides to the MKO to carry out sabotage operations within Iranian territory.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

MKO Spokesman Condemns Raid

NC0911171994 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1630 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Baghdad, 9 Nov (MENA)—The Iranian opposition Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization [MKO] has condemned the air raid launched by Iranian fighter aircraft against the opposition Iranian Kordestan Democratic Party headquarters, the Qasemlu (?group) in north Iraq. In an exclusive statement to a MENA correspondent in Baghdad, MKO spokesman in Iraq Farid Sulaymani revealed that Iranian aircraft failed to [words indistinct] the Iranian National Liberation Army located inside Iraqi territory because of the maximum state of alert in the Iranian resistance groups and their strong defensive preparedness following the Iranian missile attack on an Iranian resistance camp located 80 km from Baghdad. He said that Iranian President Hashemi-Rafsanjani [words indistinct] the Iranian Governorate of Kermanshah from where three Scud missiles were fired at the camp on Sunday. He noted that Hashemi-Rafsanjani visited the governorate to acquaint himself with the situation of the Iranian Armed Forces in the border area in preparation for launching military operations across the Iranian border.

This is the second attack launched by Iran against the Iranian opposition bases inside Iraqi territory in a week. From inside Iranian territory, the Iranian forces fired Scud missiles at the MKO base of Ashraf, 200 km from Baghdad, early on Sunday morning, causing only material damage. There has been no official Iraqi reaction to the attack by Iranian aircraft on the opposition Iranian Kordestan Democratic Party base in north Iraq. Informed sources in Baghdad described the raid as serious, auguring grave consequences.

INA Reports Tehran's Announcement

JN0911213194 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2100 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Tehran, 9 Nov (INA)—A military source in Tehran has said that Iranian military jets today bombed positions under the control of forces opposed to the Iranian Government in Kou Senjaq District in Irbil Governorate.

INA has learned that the positions that were bombed belong to the Kurdish Democratic Party of Iran. The bombing was carried out under the very nose of the sabotage cliques in the north of the homeland that are affiliated with the groups of Jalal Talabani and Mas'ud Barzani.

It is known that Jalal Talabani was involved in a plot to assassinate Dr. 'Abd-al-Rahman Qasimlu, head of the Kurdish Democratic Party of Iran, a few years ago in Austria.

In New York, and based on the letter of protest submitted by the Iraqi ambassador at the United Nations in reply to the recent Iranian aggression on Iraqi territory using Scud missiles, the official spokesman of the UN secretary general has said: The secretary general is following up with concern the recent reports on the renewed hostilities between Iran and Iraq. The secretary general urges both sides to exercise maximum self-restraint and abandon such actions, which will only escalate tension in the region, the spokesman added.

Government Denounces 'Aggression'

JN1011111394 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1035 GMT 10 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Baghdad, 10 Oct (INA)—An official Foreign Ministry spokesman has said that before noon yesterday, Wednesday 9 November 1994, the Iranian regime"s warplanes launched a new cowardly attack against civilian targets inside Iraqi territory. Four Iranian warplanes bombarded Kou Senjaq and Taqtaq districts in Irbil Governorate to the north of the 36th parallel and 60 km deep inside Iraqi territory, destroying and setting fire to a number of houses and leaving three citizens in the area wounded.

In a statement to INA, the spokesman said the Iranian regime's new evil aggression is part of a series of repeated attacks against Iraq, the latest of which was the rocket attack against the Iraqi territory on 6 November 1994, which take advantage of the unjust embargo imposed on Iraq and the security vacuum in the northern part of the country.

The spokesman said: The Government of the Republic of Iraq strongly protests this Iranian aggressive act against Iraq which is a flagrant infringement on Iraq's sovereignty and blatant intervention in its domestic affairs. It also denounces the Iranian regime's insistence on violating the cease-fire stipulated by UN Security Council Resolution 598 and warns that regime against repeating such aggressive acts that run counter to the principles of international law and the UN Charter. Iraq reserves the right to full retaliation with any appropriate method to preserve the sanctity and sovereignty of its air, land, and waters and the security of its people in accordance with Clause 51 of the UN Charter. It also reserves the right to demand full compensation for the damage caused by that aggression in accordance with international laws and norms.

The spokesman stressed that Iraq strongly denounces this Iranian act of aggression and holds the Iranian Government fully responsible for it. It also reserves its full right to legitimate defense against the evil Iranian aggression at the appropriate time and through the appropriate means. It also strongly rejects the Iranian excuses for this aggression: that there are Iranian opposition forces stationed inside the Iraqi territory.

The spokesman added: Appropriate measures have been taken to respond to any new Iranian aggression. The Foreign Ministry also today summoned the Iranian

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

charge d'affaires in Baghdad and handed him a memorandum strongly protesting this evil aggression.

In a related development, the foreign minister sent a letter to the UN secretary general which includes a strong protest against the Iranian aggression. He also lodged a complaint against the Iranian regime for that new aggression.

Russian Foreign Minister Kozyrev Arrives

JN0911194494 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1900 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev, accompanied by Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz, arrived in Baghdad this evening on a visit of several days.

In a statement to INA, Kozyrev said that he will convey the greetings of Russian President Boris Yeltsin to President Saddam Husayn and the Iraqi people, as well as his wishes for progress and prosperity. He added that his visit to Iraq is a continuation of the talks he held during his previous visit to Iraq and the talks he held with Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz. Kozyrev noted that the talks will deal with the developments in relations between Iraq and the Security Council in a way that will strengthen stability, peace, and security in the region and the world.

Russian Foreign Ministry Andrey Kozyrev was received at the airport by Foreign Minister Muhammad Sa'id al-Sahhaf, the Russian ambassador in Baghdad, and the embassy staff.

Kozyrev is accompanied by the chief of the Middle East Desk at the Russian Foreign Ministry, a number of senior Russian officials, and a press team, including Russian and foreign journalists.

Andrey Kozyrev and Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz arrived in Baghdad this evening aboard a Russian Aeroflot plane on a direct flight from Moscow to Baghdad.

Explosion Reported Near Mosul Governorate House

JN0811195294 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Kurdistan in Arabic 1600 GMT 8 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] An explosive device has gone off near Mosul Governorate House. Ambulance and police cars rushed to the scene to cordon off the area and evacuate the victims. Citizens were ordered to keep away out of fear that they would discover the real extent of the losses. A number of citizens at the scene were arrested and nearby shops were ordered to shut down.

The situation in Mosul has deteriorated sharply. There has been an increase in checkpoints and joint military police, intelligence, and security patrols to pursue the fugitives and create a state of fear in order to prevent a repetition of what happened in 1991.

Oppositionists Reportedly Meet Iranian Envoy in UK

MM0911161294 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 9 Nov 94 pp 1, 4

[Report by Kamran Qurrah Daghi: "Iranian Envoy Meets With Iraqi Opposition Representatives"]

[FBIS Translated Text] London—Well-informed sources revealed in London yesterday that contacts have been made recently between the Iraqi opposition, "especially" the parties belonging to the Unified Iraqi National Congress [UINC], and a high-ranking Iranian envoy who visited the British capital last week. The sources noted that the envoy entrusted with the Iraqi file is Hajji Agha Mohammadi, an adviser to President 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani and representative of Ayatollah 'Ali Khamene'i, spiritual guide of the Islamic Republic of Iran, to the president's office.

Contacts have also been made between Syrian officials and Iraqi and Kurdish opposition representatives. However, it is not clear whether these Syrian and Iranian moves are coordinated between the two capitals. A high-ranking representative of Jalal Talabani, leader of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan, visited Damascus a week ago and conveyed a message from Talabani to President Hafiz al-Asad. Kurdish sources do not rule out a visit to the Syrian capital by Mas'ud Barzani, leader of the Kurdistan Democratic Party.

But it seems that the main reason for the opposition parties' "attraction" to Damascus is Syrian information to the effect that "an agreement" was reached during President Bill Clinton's visit to Damascus between him and President Hafiz al-Asad regarding "cooperation" to bolster "a change from within" in Iraq—a change in which the National Congress "may" play the role of "a cover."

The National Congress' leadership will discuss the latest developments in its meeting scheduled to be held soon in Salah al-Din, in the north of Iraq. It has been learned that Iranian envoy Mohammadi, who is entrusted with the Iraqi file, held a series of meetings with Iraqi opposition parties, especially those belonging to the UINC.

The sources said that Mohammadi "expressed the Iranian Government's interest in supporting the National Congress in its efforts to extricate the Iraqi people from their predicament. He promised to understand the opposition's problems and the nature of the obstacles facing it." Furthermore "the Iranian envoy expressed his hope that the congress would develop its initiatives aimed at unifying the opposition, stressing that the only party benefiting from its fragmentation is the regime of (President) Saddam Husayn."

Meanwhile, it has been learned that Mohammadi met also with the Islamic factions in the Iraqi opposition. The sources said that he "urged them to transcend differences and side-issues and to give precedence to the

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

task of extricating the Iraqi people from their predicament over any other issues."

At another level, it has been learned that Mohammadi met with British Government officials and discussed with them bilateral relations "and the Salman Rushdie issue" in a bid to improve relations between Iran and the West. In this regard, sources acquainted with Tehran's thinking believe that Tehran's adoption of positive positions toward the Iraqi opposition in general is tantamount to "a message" to the West to the effect that Iran, whose economic crisis is worsening, is willing to become a cooperative element in the region.

The same sources expect the parties concerned with these contacts to take account of "potential developments in the region in the light of the peace process, including the U.S. military presence in the Gulf, the horizons of Israeli-Turkish cooperation, and the potential role Jordan might play in bringing about a change in Iraq."

The sources cited Tehran's satisfaction with the statement issued by the U.S. State Department, in which it refused to establish contacts with the "Mojahedin-e Khalq" organization based in Iraq, stressing that it does not consider it "an alternative" to the Iranian regime. The sources said that "Mojahedin-e Khalq" is not the only quarter which considered the U.S. statement the "green light" for the recent Iranian missile attack on the "Ashraf" base, which belongs to the organization in the Iraqi area of Jalula', situated some 70 km from the border with Iran. Iraqi oppositionists—Arabs and Kurds—told AL-HAYAH of another "indication" of the "positive" change in Tehran's position toward the Kurdish parties and the UINC leadership, namely its cooperation with them in normalizing relations between the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan and the Islamic Movement in Iraqi Kurdistan. They also cited the visit to Tehran last month by Mas'ud Barzani and visits exchanged between Iran and Iraqi Kurdistan.

Kurdish Leaders Urge Normalization Process

NC0911180494 (Clandestine) Voice of the People of Kurdistan in Arabic 1600 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The Higher Committee for the Normalization of the Situation in Kurdistan held a meeting at the Kurdistan Parliament premises at 1500 yesterday. Brother Jalal Talabani, leader of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan [PUK], and Mas'ud Barzani, leader of the Kurdistan Democratic Party [KDP], chaired the meeting. [passage omitted]

The meeting dealt with the steps taken by the normalization sub- committees. The PUK and KDP leaders stressed the need to complete the normalization process throughout the Kurdistan region. The meeting, which was held in a friendly and fraternal atmosphere, lasted around two hours.

PUK leader Jalal Talabani received brother KDP leader Mas'ud Barzani in his office in Irbil at 1030 today. The meeting was attended by members of the political bureaus of the two allied parties. The delegates discussed the situation in Kurdistan and the problems and obstacles impeding the completion of the normalization process in Kurdistan.

Elsewhere, PUK leader Jalal Talabani received Field Marshal Hasan al-Naqib, Dr. Ahmad al-Jalabi, chairman of the Executive Council of the Unified Iraqi National Congress, and a delegation representing the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq. The delegates reiterated the fraternal ties and the spirit of coordination and common struggle of the Iraqi opposition ranks.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Netanyahu, Other Sources View U.S. Elections

TA1011122894 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 10 Nov 94 p 4

[Report by Hemi Shalev and Menahem Rahat]

[FBIS Translated Text] While Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin avoided publicly commenting on the upheaval in the U.S. elections, opposition leader Binyamin Netanyahu yesterday urged Israel to prepare plans reduce the Israeli economic dependence on the U.S.

Rabin said yesterday: "I do not believe we should comment on domestic developments in the country that is most friendly to Israel. The American people have spoken. I believe that there is broad support for Israel in the two big U.S. parties."

On a more pessimistic note, Netanyahu stated that the results of the U.S. elections indicate that the United States is in a long-term process of focusing on domestic affairs which "sooner or later will bring about a significant cut in the resources earmarked as aid to Israel, regardless of the basic sympathy for Israel the two American parties share. The Israeli Government must prepare a plan that will reduce our economic dependence, develop Israel's economy, and create economic independence—and the sooner the better."

Jerusalem last night analyzed the American upheaval. Initial conclusions indicate that Israel and the region only stand to lose from the change in power on the American scene in several aspects:

—In terms of foreign aid, the extent of aid for Israel will probably remain at its current level, but the administration will find it very hard to collect the funds needed for the expansion of aid plans stemming from the peace process, for regional plans, for Jordan, the Palestinians, and also for Syria which expects generous American grants. The American ability to promise generous funds for Arab flexibility has, therefore, been impaired.

—The option of stationing U.S. troops on the Golan has, apparently, not been impaired.

—A vast reshuffle is expected to take place in some of the Senate committees relevant to Israel. For example, Jesse Helms is expected to be appointed head of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Helms, the most conservative senator in that house, often tends to "bypass Israel from the right." The fact that he may be heading such an important committee at the time when the peace process, to which he is opposed, is being conducted might cause problems. The appointment of Ambassador-designate to Israel Martin Indyk has yet to be ratified by the Helms-led committee before he can arrive at the Tel Aviv embassy.

To sum up, Israel and the Jewish lobby are expected to realign themselves. After focusing almost entirely on the administration for the past two years, Israel will have to start working more independently on Congress through its Washington embassy and Israeli visitors.

Editorial Views Impact of U.S. Elections

TA1011113394 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 10 Nov 94 p 6

[Editorial: "Earthquake in Washington"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Midterm elections in the US may be mostly local affairs, but this Tuesday's [8 November] results will have inestimable global impact. The drastic change in the composition of Congress, the precipitous decline in the president's standing, and doubts about the administration's ability to get along with the legislative branch will affect stock markets, political alliances, and policy decisions around the world.

Israel, too, will feel the tremors of this electoral earthquake. True, the administration will undoubtedly remain friendly. The election results are not likely to change President Bill Clinton, considered both on a personal and political level one of the most loyal and devoted friends Israel has ever had.

But American foreign policy is not dictated by presidential proclivities alone. On the solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict, there is little difference in essence, if not in style, between the policies of the friendly Clinton administration and those of the far less congenial Bush administration.

The fact is that Washington, under both Democrats and Republicans, has wanted Israel to return to the Green Line ever since 1968. That the relationship is now warmer than ever has more to do with Jerusalem's acquiescence in this wish than with an American change of heart.

But while the general policy parameters have remained constant, there have been differences in tactics and attitudes. These have been affected not merely by the president's personal preferences, but by various pressures on policy shapers. And it is these pressures which will now change.

Clinton's attitude on Israel has been shaped by supporters of the Peace Now ideology, most of whom are also left-wing Democratic Party activists. And since the Israeli government has adopted this ideology as its own, there was no room for conflict between Jerusalem and Washington. Moreover, the pro-Israel lobby AIPAC [America Israel Public Affairs Committee], headed by left-wing Democrat activist Steve Grossman, is also dominated by the same ideology.

This is only natural: AIPAC traditionally represents Israeli government views. And the lobby has been nothing if not consistent in eliminating from influential positions anyone who opposes current Israeli policy. The result has been that an organization which used to be

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

ready to challenge American moves deemed unfavorable to Israel has become a rubber stamp for the administration. Influenced by Israeli attitudes, it has even discouraged congressional measures aimed at supervising administration grants to the PLO.

All this was unexceptionable as long as Congress provided unquestioning support for the administration's policies. But with the Republicans taking control, such support will not be automatic. The committee heads in the Senate will be Republicans, whose faith in the promises of radical dictators is not quite as infinite as that of the administration's emissaries to Syria's dictator Hafiz al-Asad. They may also not treat the opinions of AIPAC's leftist Democrats, whether they represent Israel or not, as unchallengable gospel.

Not that the newly powerful figures in Congress consider themselves unfriendly to Israel. On the contrary. But they are not enthusiastic supporters of foreign aid, and many are sworn antiinterventionists who may find it difficult to favor stationing American troops in the Golan. Some of them, like Sen. Jesse Helms who will now head the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, are avowed foes of the PLO, which they consider a radical organization. They may find Israel's and AIPAC's enthusiasm for bolstering the organization distasteful.

Nor are the Republicans unaware of the message the voters have sent them: Domestic issues must come first. With the threat of the Soviet Union removed, Americans care little about intervening in remote countries. There can be no better proof of this than the inability of Clinton's recent successes in foreign affairs, and particularly his unequalled photo opportunities in the Middle East, to help any of the Democratic candidates.

It is precisely this kind of change in American mood which the plan to station American troops in the Golan ignores. Promoted by the government as a fitting substitute for the strategic Heights, it counts on the constancy of American foreign policy. But even the world's greatest, most powerful and stable democracy cannot be expected to be more preoccupied with Israel's destiny than with its own formidable challenges.

Perhaps this turning-inward of America will prove salutary for Israel. It may remind Jerusalem of the validity of the fundamental Zionist premise: Only Israel's own army can be entrusted with the nation's security.

Rabin Criticizes France's Veil Orient House Visit

BR0911141194 Paris LIBERATION in French 8 Nov 94 p 14

[Report signed "P.H.": "Controversial Visit to East Jerusalem by Simone Veil"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Jerusalem—[French Social Affairs Minister] Simone Veil was at the center of a controversy yesterday when she visited the Palestinian leaders in the Orient House, the PLO headquarters in East Jerusalem.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin criticized the health minister, expressing the view that she had "followed very bad advice" by visiting the Orient House. Police Minister Moshe Shahal, who had deployed police around the Palestinian headquarters after the visit by Turkish Prime Minister Tansu Ciller on Saturday [5 November], said that he was not opposed to "private" visits by foreign dignitaries, but refused to allow the Orient House to become the Palestinian "foreign ministry." However, Simone Veil's visit was not private: She explained that her visit was on her official program and that she had met with Faysal al-Husayni, PLO number one in Jerusalem, and with women active in the social sphere.

The French minister of state, known here as a friend of Israel, has paid the price of the "war" which has been launched against the PLO in Jerusalem. Yitzhak Rabin had a bill passed on its first reading in Parliament yesterday prohibiting Palestinian political activities outside the occupied territories without the authorities' agreement. Annexed East Jerusalem falls within the framework of this future ban. Yasir 'Arafat intends to raise this question today during his meeting with Rabin at the border post of Erez, the entry into the Gaza strip.

Article Views Possible Water Deal With Turkey

MM0911172994 in Arabic 9 Nov 94 p 11

[Article by Huda al-Husayni: "Turkish-Israeli Coordination"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Turkish prime minister's visit to Israel was no ordinary visit. It revealed some extremely serious and important matters which deserve pause for thought.

Turkish Prime Minister Tansu Ciller's visit to Israel and what it accomplished for Turkey and Israel demonstrated how harmful the Arab lack of coordination was to all the Arab states, and they demonstrated that the peace sought by the Arab states is in fact an Israeli peace and that only Israel decides who, in addition to itself, should benefit from it.

Despite all the legitimacy Ciller has given Israel with her economic offers, the Israeli officials did not hesitate to express resentment and disapproval of Ciller's visit to Orient House in East Jerusalem. Because Ciller is not Clinton, Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert did not insist on accompanying her when she prayed at al-Aqsa mosque, claiming that on a Sabbath he does not accompany anyone.

The significant point is that what has been accomplished on the Palestinian-Israeli track and the Jordanian-Israeli track made it possible for Turkey to reveal openly what used to take place secretly and cautiously, reflecting a

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

desire to establish security and economic links and foreign policy coordination with Israel.

Addressing the Israeli Foreign Relations Committee, Ciller said that Turkey shared Israel's readiness to face extremism and confront violence, even by force if necessary. On this same visit, it was also agreed that Israel would modify 40 Turkish F-4 aircraft in a deal worth $500 million. Ciller also expects a Turkish-Israeli free-trade agreement within two months. She informed Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin that Istanbul was willing to become the headquarters of the Middle East Bank for Regional Development without saying whom she expected to finance that bank. Ciller felt that Turkey should have a major share of the projects proposed by Israel, to the value of $25 billion, which Israel suggested should come from the Western states and the Gulf states. That share is simply the bank through which these project funds would flow. They do not take the interests of all the Arab states into consideration except where that positively serves Israeli interests first and then the interests of its allies.

In Israel, Ciller harped on the question of the water market in the region and emphasized that Turkey could play an important part in it. Rabin's reply was that Israel would balance the cost of importing water from Turkey against the cost of desalinating sea water.

Water is Israel's main target, and it wants to have main control of the water of the Jordanian, Syrian, and Lebanese rivers and lakes. On the issue of water, it scored a victory [in its deal] with Jordan. Instead of giving Jordan an outlet on Lake Tiberias, it promised to supply it with 50 million cubic meters of water annually. In doing so it managed to dash the surrounding Arab states' hope of reviving the 1955 plan drawn up by the American mediator Eric Johnston which, if implemented, would give Jordan 100 million cubic meters of water annually directly from Lake Tiberias.

Since 1967, and then 1976, Israel has been in control of the waters of Baniyas, al-Hasbani, and Tiberias. In any future peace agreement with Lebanon and Syria, Israel wants to make sure that it gets a major part of the water of al-Litani and al-Hasbani Rivers in Lebanon, and it wants an outlet on Baniyas River which, it says, falls in its territory under the border demarcation of the mandate. It also wants to make sure that Syria stays away from the Tiberias water.

Now, with Ciller's visit to Israel and the deals she signed, Israel believes that the water issue can be resolved through a regional agreement with Turkey playing the main part in it. It would allow Syria's demand for its share of the Euphrates water to be met, provided Syria meets all Israel's water demands in the Golan. Israel also believes that Lebanon could be persuaded to give up its water under a larger deal.

It seems that a water war will break out before peace prevails; but it may not, and the water may go the same way as the territory. And some people still wonder why we mourn coordination.

Intelligence Chief on Furor Over Officer's Remarks

TA1011111394 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 10 Nov 94 pp 8, 9

[Interview with Major General Uri Sagi, head of the IDF Intelligence Branch, by No'omi Levitzky on 9 November; place not given]

[FBIS Translated Text] "A tempest in a tea pot," is how Gen. Uri Sagi, head of the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] Intelligence Branch [IB], yesterday described the uproar surrounding the remarks by Brigadier General Ya'aqov 'Ami-Dror, head of the IB Research Department, at the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee.

Speaking with YEDI'OT AHARONOT yesterday, the IB head said: "It is our duty, and naturally it is the duty of political echelons and public officials, to refrain from using the assessments of IDF personnel, specifically IB officers, as a tool for political bickering. I regret that there were people who exploited parts of the Research Department chief's assessment. If the public could be presented with the exchanges at the committee, it would realize immediately that this is a tempest in a tea pot."

[Levitzky] What did the head of the Research Department really tell the committee members?

[Sagi] After studying the minutes of the meeting, I learned that the remarks were taken out of context. The department chief answered a question regarding the observation of agreements between Syria and Turkey. He gave correct facts in his reply, but in his assessment he also presented known and less-known facts.

When asked about al-Asad's credibility, he stressed—and correctly so—that the relevant part of agreements is not credibility but interests and arrangements which exist to uphold the agreements. The department chief's assessment, on which we both agree, is that agreements between countries do not depend on persons but on the agreements themselves.

[Levitzky] So how come things turned out the way they did?

[Sagi] He could not have guessed that there would be tendentious and partial leaks of remarks made in a closed meeting. I found no clue as to his personal political views in his remarks. I am not even certain what these political views are. I am proud to say that there is pluralism in the IB. We all must understand that such pluralism exists here, and that the IB chief is under no obligation to accept the Research Department's assessment, and vice versa. Every professional officer may, is entitled to, and sometimes must express his stand. The hierarchic chain of command does not impair assessments.

The very term assessment indicates that this is our subjective view of events, which are sometimes clear and sometimes unknown. It is no secret that diverse opinions

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

can be heard in the IB, often quite different from one another. This is true also with regard to the Syrian issue which, by nature, is politically sensitive.

Three years ago, it was unpopular to describe the changes that take place in Syria. Yet, it is the right and duty of the person who makes the assessment to express it before the authorized bodies to facilitate their decisionmaking process.

[Levitzky] How influential is the IB with decisionmakers?

[Sagi] The IB and the IB chief do not aspire to replace the decisionmaking level or even influence it. Their duty is to collect the factual data and complete it with an assessment. Eventually, they have to try to describe—based on their professional view and understanding—reality as it evolves, thus allowing the decisionmakers to find the the track the see as appropriate.

Decisionmakers are under no obligation to accept the intelligence assessment but, once they accepts it, they are responsible for the assessment as well. If the decisionmakers choose to reject the intelligence assessment, intelligence personnel are best advised to avoid any attempt to influence anyone. If they do, it could be perceived as irrelevant.

We must also remember that such storms are not beneficial for a democratic society because they might impair on the tendency of the professional echelons to express themselves freely. Naturally, it should be ascertained if secret and sensitive information is still kept behind closed doors as, incidentally, was decided at the political level. This will perhaps make it easier on research personnel to freely express their assessments. We have hundreds of researchers here. Are they expected to keep quiet?

[Levitzky] What is your personal view of al-Asad's real position? Does he really want full peace with Israel, or is it only a tactical move?

[Sagi] If the question is on whether al-Asad has changed his basic opinion of Israel, I must humbly announce that al-Asad has not become a lover of Zion. If he could, hypothetically speaking, make Israel disappear from the Middle East scene, he would do so. He, however, has three goals to achieve: regaining the Golan, improving his strategic relations with the United States, and receive a de jure recognition of the presence of his troops' presence in Lebanon.

He realizes that this can only be attained with diplomatic weapons. He understands that he must pay in peace currency for this, with diplomatic relations and normalization.

[Levitzky] What is your view of the way al-Asad keeps agreements?

[Sagi] Regarding the Golan Heights, there is no doubt that since 1974, al-Asad has been keeping the disengagement agreement in letter and in spirit, with the exception of several permanent and negligible violations. Militarily speaking, I have not noticed a single violation on his part, even regarding acts of terror from the Golan.

In 1975, there was one irregularity in the attack on Ramat Magshimim. A year or two ago, two squads reached Mount Hermon. To the best of our knowledge, they came from Lebanon. Other than that, I am not familiar with a single violation.

[Levitzky] Will al-Asad honor agreements in the future?

[Sagi] This is prophecy. I believe that if it corresponds with his interests, he will do everything he can to keep and honor the agreement. At the same time, I would not suggest that the State of Israel only rely on the assessment of the credibility of this or any other statesman. It is up to the security arrangements and the power of the IDF to secure an arrangement, if and when it is attained. I believe that this is exactly what the head of the IB Research Department meant in his remarks.

Likud Files Motion of No Confidence Over Poverty

TA0811143594 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1200 GMT 8 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The Likud Knesset faction today filed a motion of no confidence in the government over what it termed the continuously increasing rise in poverty. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that Knesset Member David Levi, who will present the motion at the Knesset, said that the data published last week indicate that there has been social deterioration and that the weak strata have been neglected. The motion will be discussed at the Knesset on 14 November.

Finance Minister Avraham Shohat believes that the rise in the number of people living below the poverty line will stop completely next year and that it may even fall. Minister Shohat stressed that the data published today referred to 1993.

Likud Bill on Orient House Passes Preliminary Hearing

TA0911171394 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1600 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] An opposition bill to act against Palestinian activists in East Jerusalem has passed in a preliminary reading despite the objections of the government. David Ze'ev reports:

[Begin Ze'ev recording] The latest round of the battle over Jerusalem between the Israeli Government and the opposition in the Knesset was won by the opposition by a single vote, 40 to 39 in favor of the bill of the opposition Likud's Yehoshu'a Matza to make it a crime to operate non-Israeli sovereign or quasi-sovereign bodies within Israeli territory. Knesset Member [MK] Matza says the government must go beyond the battle

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

over the Orient House and also tackle the existence of the Palestinian energy, statistics, broadcasting, and development offices in East Jerusalem, as well as the PLO office in the Eastern part of the city that is conducting arbitration proceedings to allow Palestinians to circumvent the Israeli District Court in the city. MK Matza brought before the Knesset plenum what he said were arbitration contracts drawn up in the PLO office in East Jerusalem.

Justice Minister David Liba'i criticized Matza for making it appear as though the government differs with the opposition over the unity of Jerusalem. Minister Liba'i said making the issue a criminal one, which the Matza bill does, would lead to show trials in which defense attorneys for the Palestinians would bring in the spotlight of the media international experts who would question Israel's right to East Jerusalem.

The justice minister said he preferred the government's version which also passed this week in its first hearing, which leaves it up to the discretion of any Israeli Government whether to act against illegal activities and institutions, which would be carried out through an administrative order. The major difference then between the opposition and government bills is whether it would be an automatic criminal offense or a discretionary administrative issue. The issue now goes to the committee. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Activists Denied Entry to Cave of Patriarchs

TA1011112694 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 10 Nov 94 p A1

[Report by Eytan Rabin]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Cave of the Patriarchs will open for prayers tomorrow, after being closed two days for a security evaluation. The cave will then be closed again for a final formulation of its operating procedures. Next week, it is scheduled to open on a regular basis.

Meanwhile, the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] has distributed a list of right-wing activists who have been banned from entering Hebron or the Cave of the Patriarchs according to an order signed by Major General Ilan Biran, the commander of the Central Command. The list is made up of about 30 people. Here are the names of some of the right-wing figures who appear on the list: Shmu'el Artzi'el from Qedumim; Hayim Perlman from Teqoa'; No'am Federman from Bet Hadassah; Binyamin Kahana from Tapuah; Avishay Raviv from Qiryat Arba'; Shmu'el Ben-Ya'aqov from Shilo; Roni Trabelsi from Tiberias; Yehoyada' Artzi'el from Qedumim; Asher Karmi from Netanya; Barukh Marzel from Tall al-Rumaythah; Eyal Noqed from Bet Hadassah; Alex Libkin from Tel Aviv; Yisra'el Geiman from Giv'at Ze'ev; Shmu'el Strin from Qiryat Arba'; Yosef Arye from Qiryat Arba'; Gal'on Ben- Sa'id from Qiryat Arba'; and Shalom Kobolkin from Qiryat Malakhi.

Sources at the IDF Central Command say that the right-wing activists would be arrested if they violated the limited restriction orders. Settler leaders in the West Bank are furious at Maj. Ben. Biran for issuing the order. They claim that many of the people who appear on the list are not involved in clashes with Arabs.

The security forces at the Cave of the Patriarchs and the police are pleased with the IDF and Border Police deployment. Security sources say that the deployment is good and only minor changes are necessary such as shortening the procedure for checking in weapons at the entrance. Certain restrictions may eventually be eased for worshippers; however, the separation of Jews and Arabs remains in force at this stage.

Security sources expressed the assessment that many worshippers will arrive at the Cave of the Patriarchs over the weekend and decided to reinforce their presence. Muslims and Jews are each permitted 300 worshippers respectively inside the cave at any given time.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Senate 'Unanimously' Ratifies Treaty With Israel

JN0911132094 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1230 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] A short while ago, the Jordanian Senate unanimously ratified the draft law of the peace treaty between the government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the government of the State of Israel. The draft law was put to the vote article by article and was then unanimously approved. Voting came after the Senate had listened to the government's reply to the senators' remarks, read by Prime Minister Dr. 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali.

Al-Majali Addresses Senate After Treaty Debate

JN0911160394 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1235 GMT 9 Nov 94

[Speech by Prime Minister Dr. 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali in reply to the Senate debate on the Jordanian-Israeli Peace Treaty Bill at the Parliament Building in Amman on 9 November—recorded]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] In the name of God, most gracious, most merciful.

Senate President, esteemed Senators: May God's peace, mercy, and blessings be upon you.

The debate I have witnessed under the Parliament's dome provides cogent and compelling proof that Jordan's democratization endeavor is growing, expanding, and taking root day by day, with every debate that is held. Consequently, we have now gained experience and practice in handling the most serious issues that will influence our lives now and in the future. The past few days were days in which the country's mettle was tested. The end result is that the country's vitality, strong resolve, and constant efforts to achieve a better life in a cooperative society and a healthy and sound climate have become clear to all. This is the society sought by His Majesty King Husayn Bin-Talal, supreme commander of the Armed Forces and the leader of the march. [passage omitted]

I would like to extend my great thanks and appreciation to the Foreign Affairs Committee—chairman, rapporteur, and members—for the sincere and honest efforts they have made, as well as the bright and mature ideas they have expressed during the debate on all articles, annexes, and appendices of the treaty. They have taken notice of the report prepared on the treaty bill by the House of Representatives' Foreign Affairs Committee. Likewise, they have been well aware of the general debate and consultations held on the issue. This shows that the senators have sought to build on the accomplishments made by others and to reinforce these accomplishments.

The debate on the treaty bill in both the House of Representatives and the Senate has provided cogent proof of the maturity of our democratic process, and of its observance by the legislative branch of government.

I must acknowledge in all humility that the Senate debate, including both the Foreign Affairs Committee's and the general discussions held this morning, has strengthened my conviction regarding the importance of the event and the developments that will take place in its aftermath. This is what usually happens when enlightened minds and open hearts come together to debate issues in good faith. The exchange of views and ideas is the cornerstone of the modern Jordaniaa society. This underscores the strong democratic features of this society. Please accept my enormous thanks and gratitude.

Mr. President; esteemed Senators: Whoever reads the treaty in bad faith cannot be convinced by even cogent and clear statements. Such a person is like someone who reads the first half of the Koranic verse "O ye who believe! Approach not prayers in a state of intoxication." [part of Koranic verse] May God forgive them.

He who is lacking in attractiveness cannot find anything attractive on the globe. [poetic verse]

The issue that we deem urgent is the future awaiting us in the aftermath of the implementation of this treaty. The work required is momentous. We must shoulder our responsibilities firmly so that we may ensure the materialization of the benefits of peace. We must take advantage of the gains enshrined in the treaty so that all citizens may benefit from them efficiently and fairly. The first thing that comes to mind is the completion of the legislation required to be passed or amended, particularly since this would meet national requirements dictated by the higher interests of the homeland. The government will embark on efforts to draft this legislation, and ask the Parliament to examine and endorse it in accordance with the wishes of the people, who are represented at the Parliament.

The second issue that must be accorded due attention by us concerns an examination on our part of the country's investment and economic climate so that we may guarantee greater and improved production, as well as an expansion of foreign markets in terms of both commodities and services. By so doing, we will kill the specter of unemployment and poverty, which has constantly haunted us. You must have realized, just as I do, that time is money. As for waiting, it will do us no good.

We should seize the current opportunity by following a specific timeframe so as to promote the economy and crystallize creative efforts, particularly in the private sector which is eager to demonstrate its efficiency and capability.

Our national economy has recently been through a stage of sluggishness and suspension resulting from the prevalent wait-and-see mode, pending the crystallization of the features of the peace process. Your ratification of the treaty will end the stage of doubt and suspension and

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

usher in a new stage whose meaning and effects are clear to the citizens, thus enabling them to prepare and engage in it to the best of their ability.

The debate about the clauses of the treaty is over. We have now reached a new shore to find new promises and challenges. The government is resolved to carry out its duties. It will seek to modernize investment legislation and open prospects for investment, reconsider tax laws, cut red tape, and enhance the efficiency of bureaucratic agencies so they will truly and honestly serve the public.

We cannot bring about reform overnight. However, we shall do our best in order to launch a process of qualitative change that enables us to fulfill our aspirations. The world is watching us and will seek to enhance ties with us. We should be prepared for this and we should take the initiative to find a place for us on the world's economic map, just as we did on the political level. [passage omitted]

Council of Ministers Endorses Treaty With Israel

JN0911185994 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1800 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] At a session held this evening, the Council of Ministers endorsed the Jordanian-Israeli Peace Treaty, after it was ratified by the House of Representatives and the Senate.

Following the session, Information Minister Dr. Jawad al-'Anani spoke to our correspondent for political affairs Shakir Maharimah:

[Begin al-'Anani recording] You know that the peace treaty has been endorsed by the House of Representatives and the Senate. Therefore, the bill is now ready to be signed by the ministers and the prime minister before referring it to His Majesty King Husayn to be endorsed by a royal decree. It will then be published in the Official Gazette and enter into force and all procedures related to this issue will have been completed. What happened today is a prelude to the final signing of the bill that will be submitted to His Majesty King Husayn. [end recording]

King Ratifies Treaty After Senate Debate

JN1011104594 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 10-11 Nov 94, pp 1, 7

[Report by Ayman al-Safadi]

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] Amman—His Majesty King Husayn on Wednesday [9 November] issued a Royal Decree ratifying the Jordan-Israel peace treaty which was earlier in the day endorsed by the upper House of Parliament (the Senate.)

The accord, whose ratification documents the King will exchange with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin today, will go into effect as law upon publication in the official gazette.

The treaty received the support of the 32 Senators who attended the session when the vote was taken. Senate Speaker Ahmad al-Lawzi did not vote in line with a tradition for the speaker not to vote unless to break a tie.

Six senators were absent from the session while former Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat left the meeting before the vote was taken and after giving a speech in which he scathingly criticised the accord and announced his opposition to it.

Parliamentary sources said senators Kamil al-Sharif, Na'ilah al-Rashdan and 'Abd-al-Latif 'Arabiyat, member of the Islamic Action Front and former speaker of the Lower House, missed the session because they opposed the treaty. Senator Nasir-al-Din al-Asad was absent because of illness while Senators Ashraf-al-Kurdi and 'Abd-al-Majid Shuman were out of the country. Senator al-Kurdi faxed the Senate a letter in which he said he endorsed the treaty.

The Senate also endorsed a motion by former Prime Minister Mudar Badran to adopt the recommendations of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Lower House which called on the government to take measures to end the special arrangements allowing Israeli individuals to invest in the area of al-Baqurah and al-Ghamr.

The vote came after 19 deputies took the floor to express their views on the accord which was ratified by the Lower House with a 55-23 majority on Sunday [6 November]. [passage omitted]

In their speeches, which lasted for over three hours, the senators who fully supported the treaty reiterated assertions made by deputies that the accord was the best possible deal the Kingdom could have had in light of international and Arab relations and that the accord restores the Kingdom's rights in land and water.

They also rejected accusations that the Kingdom had deviated from its declared principles on the peace talks, saying the lack of Arab coordination was something that the Kingdom had sought to avoid. They also said the Kingdom had extended all the support it could give to the Palestinians and the Palestinian cause.

But even senators who voted in favour of the accord expressed reservations about some parts in it and urged the government to address them in its talks with Israel.

"This treaty is not a victory as much as it is not a defeat," said former Minister of Justice Tahir Hikmat, who added that those who label the treaty as a victory are as far from truth as those who characterise it as a defeat.

"I believe that the choice for reaching the treaty was best among a number of bad choices," said Mr. Hikmat.

Former Minister of Information Layla Sharaf pointed to a vagueness in some parts of the treaty that she said could be interpreted to the disadvantage of the Kingdom.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Urging the government to address the loopholes she said existed in the accord when negotiating agreement that would be signed later under the accord, Ms. Sharaf said these loopholes were a source of concern and worry for many in the country.

The senator said the breaking of the psychological barriers that the accord urges was a step that cannot be forced on the people who would do so gradually when the state of peace was tested and when they were ready.

Therefore, there should be no hastiness in this regard, she said, adding that the official policy which seems to be pushing for breaking these barriers are creating "confusion." [passage omitted]

The senator said the security arrangements reached under the accord banning the formation of any security arrangements with a third party should be explained in later protocols so that they could not be later interpreted in a way that could isolate the Kingdom from the Arab World.

Saying that cultural cooperation with Israel should not pose a threat to the country's Arab Muslim identity, Mrs. Sharaf said an item in the accord which bans discriminatory and aggressive propaganda could lead to pressure to rewrite history, something which she said the treaty does not necessarily lead to but should be prevented from happening.

Noting the role Israel played in distorting the image of the Arab and Muslim culture, Mrs. Sharaf said Israel should be urged to stop distorting the image of Arabism and Islam of which Jordan is an integral part.

Ms. Sharaf demanded that the official media stop saying that the accord had recognised the sovereignty of Jordan, adding that it is Israel which had been seeking recognition and acceptance in the area. [passage omitted]

Former Minister of Islamic Affairs 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Khayyat echoed Mrs. Sharaf in speaking against normalisation that could pose a threat to the Kingdom's Arab Muslim culture.

He said the duty of the government and the people was to protect the country's values and traditions against any foreign cultures.

Dr. al-Khayyat recognised the role Jordan played in protecting Islamic shrines in Jerusalem, saying these shrines should never be given up because they were a concern to the whole Arab and Muslim nation.

But Mr. 'Ubaydat said Jordan made a mistake by bringing up the issue of Jerusalem in the treaty.

In a speech in which he rejected the accord, Mr. 'Ubaydat also criticized the treaty for the way it dealt with the issues of water and refugees and displaced persons.

Mr. 'Ubaydat said Israel managed to guarantee extra shares of the waters of al-Yarmuk and Jordan rivers at the expense of Jordan, rejecting what he called claims by Jordanian officials that the accord led to the recovery of all of the Kingdom's water rights.

"Whoever listens to statements by the minister of information and the head of the water delegation on television feels bewildered. How could an official claim that Israel gave us more than our rights (in water) and if the figures that some quote are correct, why are they not specified in the treaty?" said Mr. 'Ubaydat.

Minister of Water and Irrigation Salih Irshaydat reaffirmed to the Senate that the treaty guaranteed all Jordanian rights in water, saying the Israeli commitment not to consume more that its share of 25 million cubic meter of the waters of the al-Yarmuk river was "a victory."

Mr. 'Ubaydat also criticised the accord for failing to reach a clear solution to the issue of displaced persons and for agreeing to discuss it within the framework of the four-party committee that includes the Palestinians, Egypt and Israeli in addition to the Kingdom.

"While it could be accepted that the issue of refugees could be postponed, the issue of displaced persons remains a Jordanian responsibility," said Mr. 'Ubaydat. [passage omitted]

Mr. 'Ubaydat said tackling the issues of Jerusalem's holy sites in the treaty would form the basis of transforming the Israeli conflict "which existed before (the signing of the) Oslo" accord into an a Jordanian-Palestinian conflict.

He said the reference in the treaty to the religious sovereignty of the holy sites in Jerusalem, which, he said, is part of Palestinian land first and foremost, would work to the disadvantage of the ability of Arab parties to demand the implementation of U.N. resolution 242 and 338 which deal with Jerusalem among other occupied Arab lands.

Urging steps to correct this mistake and recognizing the "honourable role" Jordan has played in protecting Jerusalem, Mr. 'Ubaydat criticised the separation of religious sovereignty from Arab sovereignty over the Old City, saying this would give Israel justification to continue its occupation of Jerusalem "while we enter into a dispute and satisfy ourselves with a symbolic presence in the Islamic shrines." [passage omitted]

Iraq's 'Intention' To Recognize Kuwait Welcomed

JN0911194994 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1840 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The Jordanian Government has welcomed the announcement of Iraq's intention to recognize Kuwait's sovereignty, territorial integrity, and borders.

This came in a statement by Information Minister Dr. Jawad al-'Anani to our correspondent for political affairs Shukir Maharimah.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

[Begin al-'Anani recording, in progress] ...Now that all Arab countries want to recognize each other and demarcate borders with each other and to have friendly and warm relations. They also want to remove all of the obstacles that prevent the lifting of trade sanctions imposed on the fraternal Iraqi people, in view of the very difficult conditions they are experiencing. Therefore, the Jordanian Government thinks that this is a positive step. We hope that it will bring about comprehensive Arab reconciliation to overcome the problems created by the Gulf war and to enable the Iraqi people to have their humanitarian right to lead a decent life. Also, the people in Kuwait should feel that they live within secure, stable, and recognized borders. [end recording]

Editorial Lauds Russian Initiative on Iraq

JN1011121694 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 10 Nov 94 p 1

[Editorial: "The Russian Initiative and Regional Peace"]

[FBIS Translated Text] While today's summit between between His Majesty King Husayn and the Israeli prime minister will constitute a major peace event to settle the Arab-Israeli conflict, today will witness a serious and timely attempt in the Arab east to settle an inter-Arab conflict.

The Russian initiative to settle the border dispute between Iraq and Kuwait falls within the framework of international legitimacy and bolsters Arab legitimacy and paves the way for an end to the prolonged blockade against the fraternal country and its steadfast people, a blockade which has lost every justification.

The Russian initiative must be supported by all means to achieve its hoped-for objectives. The success of such an initiative will mean an end to a hotbed of tension in the east. Otherwise, it will constantly pose a threat to the ongoing peaceful settlement of the western hotbed of tension.

Certainly, for geopolitical reasons, particularly its interest in boosting its current peace march and aspirations for growth, development, and construction, Jordan has an evident vital interest in seeing peace prevail both to the east and to the west.

Jordan has constantly called for an inter-Arab peace to pave the way for pan-Arab solidarity to bolster the position of the Arab negotiator in the process of peacefully settling the Arab-Israeli conflict. Therefore, we can only welcome the Russian initiative to settle the border dispute between the two sisterly countries—Iraq and Kuwait—although we would have wished that the dispute had been resolved within the Arab fra...ework.

We view the success of the Russian initiative as a valuable opportunity to pave the way for realizing a minimum level of Arab solidarity, which we have missed during this decisive era in our history. We believe success of this initiative will be a more valuable opportunity to bolster regional peace, security, and stability, which are needed by regional states as well as by the vital foreign interests in the region.

Therefore, we urge our Western friends, particularly the Americans, to at least not obstruct the Russian initiative between Iraq and Kuwait, if they do not want to support it. We believe the blockade imposed on our brethren in Iraq has gone beyond its objectives and lost its justification. It is high time it was lifted to pave the way for advancing the march of peace, security, and stability in the entire region.

Islamists Fear Government Response to 'U.S. Calls'

JN0811174894 Amman AL-BILAD in Arabic 9 Nov 94 p 5

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] In their internal dialogue, the "Islamists" find themselves compelled to draw a link between the recent provocations from official quarters and their old fears. These fears were revealed a few months ago, after the Washington Declaration, to [Royal Court Chief] al-Sharif Zayd Bin-Shakir in an "extraordinary" and frank meeting. After that meeting, the Islamist leaders must consider what is taking place now as confirmation of these fears.

In the meeting with Bin-Shakir, the Islamist leaders were searching for an answer to the following question: What was agreed about us in Washington? Islamist leader Dr. 'Abdallah al-'Akayilah considers the gist of the answer is that the Islamists are being targeted, especially by the Americans.

Al-'Akayilah said: In our internal literature, everyone agrees that we are being targeted, particularly at this phase. I believe we should begin discussing this issue despite some "systematic" attempts to depict it as all as a mere "illusion."

In an exclusive statement to AL-BILAD, deputy Muhammad al-Hajj, discussed some of the current manifestations that, he believes, support this idea. These manifestations include besieging the mosques, preventing the deputies from delivering sermons, and, finally, beating up Shaykh Abu-Zant. From this premise, the dialogue among the Islamists is now focusing on the open U.S. calls on the Jordanian Government to curb the political presence of the Islamic current on the eve of the actual translation of the peace treaty. Those concerned assume that the translation of this treaty will require calm and security. This has prompted the Islamists to say that their heads are now on the chopping block and that they may be presented on the treaty's silver platter.

Anyone following the statements made by Islamists such as Hammam Sa'id, Abu-Zant, and others, should observe an intensification in the talk about the adaption to U.S. specifications and standards by the al-Majali government. [passage omitted]

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

King Speaks to 'Arafat, To Continue Contacts

NC1011074494 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2230 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Gaza, 9 Nov (MENA)—Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat telephoned King Husayn of Jordan this evening and briefed him on the results of the talks he held with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin yesterday. Nabil Abu-Rudaynah, information adviser to 'Arafat, has said that 'Arafat and King Husayn have agreed to continue their contacts to consult on common issues.

French Admiral Lanxade Concludes Meetings, Departs

Meets With Counterpart

JN0711210994 Amman Jordan Television Network in English 2000 GMT 7 Nov 9 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] This morning, Admiral Lanxade, chairman of the French Joint Chiefs of Staff, had a meeting with his Jordanian counterpart General 'Abd-al-Hafiz Mar'i al-Ka'abinah, who reviewed the conditions in the region. The French guest also heard a briefing during the meeting on Jordan's Armed Forces.

Meets Crown Prince, EU Official

JN0811181094 Amman Radio Jordan in English 1700 GMT 8 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan has received French Chief of Staff Admiral Jacques Lanxade and the accompanying delegation. Discussion focused on bilateral relations and the French support of the peace process in the region, and the Jordanian-Israeli peace accord. The meeting was attended by the [Jordanian] chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the French ambassador in Amman.

The crown prince also received the director of North-South Relations Department at the European Union, and the accompanying delegation. Discussion focused on the pivotal European role in the development of the Middle East.

Departs Amman

JN0911211394 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1900 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] French Chief of Staff Admiral Jacques Lanxade left Amman this evening following a visit lasting several days. During the visit, Lanxade met His Majesty King Husayn, the supreme commander of the Armed Forces, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the prime minister, and the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Lanxade also visited several military sites and cultural and archaeological sites in the Kingdom.

Lanxade was seen off at the airport by Staff General 'Abd-al-Hafiz Mar'i al-Ka'abinah, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; the chief of staff of the Royal Air Force; and the French ambassador and military attache in Amman.

Writer on Implications of Hamas-Israeli Talks

JN0811122694 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 8 Nov 94 pp 1, 7

[Report by correspondent Lamis K. Andoni "who has just returned from Gaza and a working visit to the occupied territories"; date not given]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Conflicting Israeli statements regarding opening a dialogue with Hamas reflect a serious debate within the Israeli cabinet on means to get the Islamic Resistance Movement into the peace process, according to Israeli officials and Palestinian analysts.

"There has been no final opinion. The issue is still being debated," says Israeli foreign ministry spokesman Yigal Palmor.

"But there is an Israeli willingness to negotiate with Hamas if Hamas is willing to negotiate with and to recognise Israel", he said.

Hamas officials refused to respond and accused Israel of floating "trial balloons."

"We have nothing to say. The Israelis have to make up their mind," said an angry Mahmud al-Zahhar, a Hamas leader.

He said that initially Hamas had suggested an end to attacks against civilians as a prelude to dialogue but that now the movement had no comment until the Israelis took a clear position.

Dr. al-Zahhar's attitude, in view of analysts, partly reflects deep suspicions among Hamas leaders and many Palestinians that Israeli is waging a campaign of assassination of Islamist leaders that had began with the killing of activisit and journalist Hani 'Abid last week.

But a prominent clergyman close to the movement said that his call for dialogue with the Israelis still stood and that his position was consistent with Hamas policies.

"My call stills stands. The need for dialogue is more urgent than ever to stop the bloodshed," said Shaykh Jamil Hamami, who called for dialogue last week in return for release of Palestinian prisoners.

At least four senior officials have publicly called for dialogue with Hamas but Israeli Prime Minister Izhaq Rabin has dismissed the possibility.

The apparent shift in the Israeli position is seen as an indication of Hamas' relative success in using escalation of violent attacks as a bargaining chip to make Israel speak directly to the movement about major Palestinian issues such as political prisoners.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Prospects for negotiations between Israel and Hamas have alarmed the Gaza Strip-based Palestinian National Authority (PNA) that is seeking to accommodate the Islamic movement but does not want to be sidestepped.

"Direct contacts between Hamas and Israel will deal a heavy blow to the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) that wants to remain the sole interlocutor and party that brings along other Palestinian groups," says a Palestinian analyst.

In the view of many, the fact that the Israeli government is even considering talking to Hamas is an indicator of the failure of the PNA to consolidate its position as the representative of the Palestinian demands at the negotiating table.

The way to direct contacts between the Israeli government and Hamas, however, is still planted with obstacles, especially that Hamas is still described by Israel as a "terrorist" organisation.

But the indirect exchange of proposals between Hamas and Israel is in itself an important turning point revealing that both are ready to talk but differ on the terms.

While Israel is trying effectively to extract a de facto recognition of the Jewish state by Hamas, the Islamic movement is trying to get Israel to talk to it as a major representative of the Palestinian people without succumbing to Israeli terms.

The very idea of dialogue between Hamas and Israel will necessarily carry the seeds of implicit mutual acceptance, changing the role of the major Palestinian political opposition group into one that operates within the framework of the PLO's agreements with Israel.

The PNA has also been keen to get Hamas to gradually accept the status quo that has emerged since the setting up of the authority last July. But the PNA would prefer to remain, for the time being, the only channel for any negotiations with Hamas, and wants the movement to depend on the PNA for dealing with Israel.

But in practice, Hamas has already taken steps that indirectly accommodate the PNA—a creation of the Palestinian-Israeli agreements that the Islamic movement rejects.

In fact, the acts of violence or resistance that have boasted Hamas' standing among the Palestinians have deepened the group's need for authority.

For example, during the crisis that followed an Israeli soldier's kidnapping last month, Hamas dealt directly with the PNA as a major interlocutor and expressed its readiness to solve the issue and save the soldier's life.

The kidnapping episode, which ended with the killing of the soldier and three of his kidnappers as a result of an aborted Israeli attempt to save him, was a message to the Israelis that Hamas was seeking negotiations over an issue that the PNA has failed to deliver on—political prisoners.

The PNA was aware of the tactic but was more concerned at the time to prove to both Israel and Hamas that it remained the major channel for communication.

Later on, after the Oct. 15 Tel Aviv suicide blast, Hamas' position relatively suffered as the group needed and publicly asked for protection from the PNA.

But even before the abduction and the Tel Aviv suicide attack, the PNA was able to reach two major understandings with Hamas. The first was an agreement to launch attacks against Israelis in the Gaza and Jericho areas—both on settlements and military posts [sentence as published]. The second, reached after the abduction drama, was that Hamas will not claim any responsibility for military operations from Gaza.

Hamas has so far observed the two agreements and the movement's leadership was reportedly upset with its members who declared responsibility for the Tel Aviv attack from Gaza mosques.

"Any act that implies Hamas' acceptance of the authority is crucial to enhance the legitimacy of the PNA," says a senior Palestinian security officer.

The Jerusalem Post reported on Sunday that Palestinian police were training Hamas and Islamic Jihad members on how to detonate bombs and booby traps. Although the report was not confirmed, the PNA has already promised Hamas and Islamic Jihad to protect its members from further Israeli attacks or assassination attempts in the aftermath of the al-'Abid killing last week.

The question is how will the PNA be able to accommodate Hamas but assert itself as the only interlocutor. Analysts believe that the PNA has no choice but to accommodate Hamas because by not doing so it will even further undermine its standing among the Palestinians as well as Israelis.

Writer Examines Reasons for Treaty Opposition

JN0811113294 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 8 Nov 94 p 6

["The View From Fourth Circle" by Rami G. Khuri: "The Complex Context, Consequences of Peace Making"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The enormous but as yet unknown ultimate implications of the peace-making now going on in the Middle East should prompt us to take a dispassionate, comprehensive view of the changes taking place throughout the Middle East, so as to be able to position ourselves for optimum national development and wellbeing. The context, motives and logistics of peace-making are important to recognise in order to be able to anticipate the possible consequences of peace.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

The context of the post-1991-Madrid process is marked by three main forces: a) the regional adaptation to the end of the cold war, the oil boom era, and the Arab-Israeli conflict, b) the quest for a new, more natural balance among factors such as Arabism, Islam, tribalism, state power and dependencies on global commercial allegiances, and, c) a drive by the peoples of our region to overcome the distortions and aberrations of 20th century history, and to reassert the older reality of pan-semitic respect, coexistence and cooperation among Muslims, Christians and Jews in the Middle East, especially in the Levant.

Within this wide and old context, the main motives for peace-making today seem to be: a) enough time has passed—about two generations—for the Israelis to realise that Arabs are not adjuncts of Nazism and for Arabs to realise that Israelis are not adjuncts of Western colonialism, b) both sides are emotionally, nationally and economically exhausted, and suffer debt and dependency so severe that their status and longevity as sovereign states sometimes can be called into question, and c) both sides have been morally degraded by seeing their societies transformed into armed camps, garrison and police states, and fountain-heads of modern terrorism, military occupation and political subjugation.

Consequently the following central logistics of peace-making seem less surprising, and in fact make a great deal of sense: a) the speed with which Israel and Jordan made a full peace, and Israel and the PLO launched their peace process via the Oslo Agreement, b) the manner in which personal, top-level meetings on both fronts instantly resolved very serious disputes and repeatedly pushed the negotiations forward, reflecting powerful motives by the leaderships to make the process work, c) the deep scepticism, hesitation and fears expressed by the people on both sides since September 1993, in contrast with the speedy, consistent eagerness of the political leaderships to move ahead, and d) the very good terms that Jordan obtained from Israel (because both states viewed one another as sovereign equals and both needed peace urgently), and the very poor terms that the PLO obtained from Israel (because Israel does not recognise the parity of Palestinian-Israeli national rights and the PLO needed peace more urgently than Israel did)

The Jordan-Israel peace accord, a fundamentally fair and sound agreement that I applaud, has elicited strong criticism not so much because of its content for terms, but because of how it fits into this wider regional context. There are four important aspects to this: the contrast between Jordanian and Palestinian gains from peace-making, the show business atmospherics of reconciliation, the frail pan-Arab political condition and Arab relationships with the United States and Israel.

The fact that Jordan obtained virtually all of its sovereign rights and demands from Israel has abruptly highlighted how little the Palestinians have obtained to date. The average person in Jordan and Palestine sees this most brutally reflected in the very different manner in which Israeli leaders deal with Jordanians (with respect, joy and perhaps even some affection) and with Palestinians (with admonishment, threats, coolness and condescension).

Another point of contention for Palestinians and some other Arabs is Israel's formal recognition of a special role for Jordan in negotiating the final status of Jerusalem and the Palestinian refugees. This is a perfectly legitimate and understandable role for Jordan, given its modern history vis-a-vis Jerusalem and Palestinians, but the problem again arises from the contrast between Jordan's gains and the Palestinians' apparent losses, in what many see to be a zero-sum game in which one side wins and another loses.

The declaration last week by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan at Casablanca that Jordan would relinquish its custody of the holy places in Jerusalem to the Palestinians when there is a sovereign Palestinian authority was most decisive and appropriate; it is precisely the sort of approach that is required today to leap over the small hurdles of suspicion that have been generated by 20th century history, and instead to reinvigorate and reinforce the much older bonds of mutual respect and cooperation that have more routinely defined relations among the small demographic groups of Levantine Semites—the three, ancient monotheistic religions, the modern identities of Jordanians, Palestinians, Israelis, Lebanese and Syrians, and the ethnic mixture of Armenians, Circassians, Kurds, and others who complete our multi-ethnic mosaic. This is Jordan at its very best, as a state, as an embodiment and custodian of humanistic values, and as a purveyor of a principled political and national Arab ethos. This is how we gain as others around us also gain, proving that this is not a zero-sum game, but one in which we all move forward together on the strength of our common fate.

The high-profile, show business manner in which the peace accord was signed in the presence of U.S. President Bill Clinton, combined with the speed of the Jordanian-Israeli reconciliation and the frenzy by some Arabs to enter into business deal with Israelis, generates two problem emotions among many Arabs, myself included. First, it has hurt our credibility, because we said for many years that we would never go off alone and sign a peace treaty. The fact that other Arabs (Egypt, PLO) bolted and signed unilterally before us should have enduced us to use our peace-making capabilities to try to revive and enhance pan-Arab coordination and cooperation, rather than to bury them. Second, it is awkward nearly to the point of shame for many Jordanian to watch or even to engage in a trans- Semitic peace jamboree with Israel while that same Israel continues to kill, imprison, torture, terrorise, occupy and otherwise dehumanise Palestinians, Lebanese and Syrians.

This is related to the third reality of the peace-making context, which is the atrocious condition of pan-Arab

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

coordination or common action. The Egypt, PLO and Jordan accords with Israel, by formally sanctifying separate deals, have merely verified the ailing Arab national condition. The inability of Arab leaders to forge common action and to capitalise on pan-Arab assets in the last three decades has prompted individual parties and states to save their skins by striking off on their own, under the banner of courage, but also under the protection of the United States.

The fourth problematic aspect of the peace-making context is the relationship between Middle Eastern parties and the United States, now the world's only superpower and the unofficial master of ceremonies of pan-Semitic fraternity. This is a special danger for both Jordan and Palestine that we need to watch carefully so as not to fall into a common trap that has ravaged and demeaned many others before us.

It seems that peace-making in the Holy Land is organically if unofficially tied to stronger economic ideological and strategic ties with the United States, and this is rather troubling to me, for three reasons. First, it breeds increased economic dependence which rarely if ever is sustainable and usually leads to political autocracy and to socio-economic mediocrity and deterioration. Second, it inevitably confers on the Middle Eastern partner a surrogate status vis-a-vis the distant imperial power that is historically fatal—and always has been, since the days of the Ptloemies and Seleucids, the Herodians, the Palmyrans, the Nabataeans, the Ghassanids and the many other small entities that tried to survive and thrive on the basis of imperial protection. Third, it always generates intense domestic anger and opposition to a process that many Arabs see not only as political and economic subjugation, but also as forced adoption of alien cultural norms and moral values.

In this respect, it is relevant to view our region over the last 15 years and see the countries that the United States has formally designated as its strategic partners and allies; Iran, Turkey, Egypt and Saudi Arabia. Though they exhibit different levels of economic wealth and face a wide array of domestic challenges, not surprisingly all four of them face significant, in some cases violent and severe, domestic challenges to their prevailing political power structure. They also deal with immense issues of national identity and stability, many of which are a direct consequence of having tried to integrate into the new American empire. They are problematic allies and strategic pivots in many ways.

The other U.S. pals, protectorates and neo-mandates in the Middle East—Kuwait and the Kurds in Northern Iraq—are deeply scarred and troubled societies, reflecting the long-term dangers of succumbing to the false promises of imperial protection. Israel, the classic American protege state, has become the country most censured by the United Nations, the longest military occupier of the 20th century, and a paradigm of racist, anti-Arab violence and militarism. The fact that Arab states must be seen to have come to terms with such an Israeli state and to make overtures to it in economic security and other fields, while its atrocious treatment of Arabs continues, is a further source of frustration today, and a driving force for critics of the Jordan-Israel accord.

These are some of the wider aspects of the peace-making process that we should not lose sight of at this critical moment. We certainly do have much to celebrate and to be thankful for, but the real process of peace-making for Jordan has just started; there is plenty of had work to do to build on the peace accord with Israel. Unlike the Egyptian and Palestinian agreements with Israel, the inherent fairness and reciprocity of the Jordan-Israel accord hold out the possibility of catalysing wider peace and reconciliation in our region—if we methodically move closer to, and improve the prospects for justice in, Palestine, Lebanon and Syria, rather than shooting off on a triumphalist but slippery sigh of relief and business contract faxes.

We should not make the common Semitic mistake of thinking that we have unlocked the key to heaven, or even to our own salvation. Approximately five thousand years of history suggest that the true security and long term wellbeing of small corners of the larger Semitic and Levantine landscape are best assured in the context of justice for the entire semitic family, and the integrated development of the wider Levantine region.

The strength of the Jordan-Israel peace agreement is that it shows how a fair, merciful, reciprocally satisfying and therefore politically palatable peace accord can be structured. It weakness is that it is being consummated in a regional context in which the other aggrieved Arab parties do not share of its fruits. Our challenge is to make sure that they do, as soon as possible; and that—first justice, then peace and stability, rather than merely surviving, paving streets and keeping the crime rate down to a modest level—will be our great modern, lasting Jordanian triumph. We have taken the first, hardest step towards this noble goal; but our joy at finding ourselves still on our feet should not blind us to two important facts; We have much hard work ahead of us, and we have not started to tackle the really tough job of remaining on our feet thanks to the support of our own regional resources and family, rather than faraway, sometimes fickle donors.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Buwayz on U.S. Efforts To Protect Resolution 425

NC0911180294 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1630 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz has said that if every state could abrogate a UN resolution, there would be no United Nations. Hence, it is not within Israel's capability to abrogate Resolution 425, he said. Buwayz noted that Lebanon is trying, through contacts with the United States and some Lebanese who have influence on it, to make the United States understand that its position requires it to be fair and just in dealing with the issues and to avoid unfair treatment in Israel's favor.

Minister Buwayz pointed out that the emergence of positive signs in the Syrian dossier will reflect positively on Lebanon and stressed that the president of the Republic's initiative reflects the Lebanese position, adding that the initiative was misinterpreted. [passage omitted]

U.S., Israel Said To Block Mention of Resolution

NC0911210594 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Attorney Elie al-Firizli, deputy speaker of the Chamber of Deputies, who, along with Deputy 'Abd-al-Rahman 'Abd-al-Rahman, is currently holding talks with German officials in Germany, has revealed that the United States and Israel were behind the refusal to include any reference to Security Council Resolution 425 in the Casablanca Summit communique. He said that both countries exploited Lebanon and Syria's absence from the conference. In a statement to the Voice of Lebanon, he noted that international parties, including Germany, sought to include a reference to the resolution in the communique.

Hizballah's Qasim on Israeli Prisoner Exchange

MM0911150094 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 9 Nov 94 p 5

[Unattributed report: "Hizballah: Israel Does Not Care About Its Prisoners"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Beirut, AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT—Shaykh Na'im Qasim, Hizballah's deputy secretary general, has stated that "Israel never proposed exchange of the prisoners it and the South Lebanese Army are holding. It just insisted on discussing the fate of its pilot Ron Arad. It does not care at all about its prisoners."

In a statement made yesterday, he said: "We care very much about the detainees and prisoners held in the prisons of the Zionist enemy and its agents, but from the discussions we have had with the international organizations on the subject, we noticed that Israel did not raise the question of exchanging its prisoners and the Lahd prisoners, but only insisted on discussing the fate of pilot Ron Arad, as if there was a problem in Israel about their prisoners. Attention was focused on just one prisoner, but we offered to release the two Israeli prisoners we are holding in return for the release of our detainees [held by Israel], especially Shaykh 'Abd-al-Karim 'Ubayd and the rest of the Lebanese and Palestinian detainees, but the answer has always been negative."

He added: The Israelis have not cared about their prisoners for months. We wish the international organizations concerned with human rights would take note of that and pay some attention to the torture of male and female detainees in al-Khiyam prison.

Israelis, Resistance Exchange Artillery Fire

NC0811183294 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 8 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The security situation deteriorated in the western and central sectors [in south Lebanon] this afternoon. At noon today, the Israeli forces violently bombarded the al-Qantarah Road; Wadi al-Saluqi; (al-Laqif); northern Qabrikha; the outskirts of Majdal Silm; Khirbat Silm, Jumayjimah, and al-Sawwanah towns; the al-Tamiriyah Triangle; Shaqra; Bra'shit; Tibnin; and Haris. The shelling, which lasted until 1545, was accompanied by intense flights by military aircraft.

A UN Interim Force in Lebanon source said over 100 shells landed in Majdal Silm and Wadi al-Saluqi in just half an hour.

A security source in the south said the resistance retaliated by bombarding the Tallusah Post with more than 10 shells.

Fadlallah Assails Lifting of Arab Boycott

NC0911182394 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] 'Allamah Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah has stated that moves to lift the Arab boycott of Israel are intended to put pressure on Lebanon and Syria to isolate them from the Arabs when they establish diplomatic and economic ties with the Zionist entity. He said that Israel wants to take from the Arabs in peacetime what it failed to take in wartime.

Labor Minister, Syrian Counterpart Sign Accord

JN1011092294 Damascus AL-BA'TH in Arabic 19 Oct 94 p 4

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Beirut—Yesterday afternoon, Syrian Social Affairs and Labor Minister 'Ali al-Khalil and Lebanese Labor Minister 'Abdallah al-Amin signed here an agreement in the field of labor between Lebanon and Syria.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

The signing ceremony was attended by Nasir Khuri, secretary general of the Higher Syrian-Lebanese Council, members of the Lebanese and Syrian sides, and a representative of the General Federation of Workers Unions in Syria.

The signing of the agreement comes as an expression and an affirmation of the special fraternal ties between Syria and Lebanon and a new contribution toward developing the relations of cooperation in the field labor and manpower.

The agreement includes several provisions that provide for protecting workers and guaranteeing their rights under existing laws and regulations in both countries. It also provides for the formation of a joint committee led by the labor ministers of both countries with the task of following up the provisions of the agreement. [passage omitted]

Chamber Commission To Lift Immunity on Deputy

NC1011132494 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 10 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The joint commission drawn from members of the Chamber of Deputies Bureau and the Administration and Justice Committee has decided to lift the immunity of Deputy Yahya Shamas [so that he can be interrogated for charges of involvement in drug trafficking]. The commission will make a relevant recommendation to a full session of the Chamber of Deputies.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Cabinet Discusses Developments, Clinton Visit

JN0811180594 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1615 GMT 8 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The Council of Ministers held a meeting under Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi at 1100 today and reviewed the work of the economic and cultural committees. The Council of Ministers also discussed current political developments in both the Arab and international arenas. Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' then reviewed these developments and the results of Arab and foreign visits and meetings, particularly the results of U.S. President Bill Clinton's visit to Syria and his talks with President Hafiz al-Asad. [passage omitted]

Russian Envoy Denies Conflict With U.S. on Region

JN0911151194 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 9 Nov 94

[Report by Thana' al-Imam in Damascus]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [passage omitted] Russian Ambassador in Damascus Viktor Goguitidze has denied the existence of any differences between Moscow and Washington over the new Russian moves in the region to play a more effective role in the peace process, particularly on the Syrian-Israeli track. He said that there were differences between his government and the U.S. Government following the visit to Iraq by Russian Foreign Minister Kozyrev, however, these were resolved the wake of Kozyrev's visit to Washington.

Regarding the recent visit to Syria by the Russian foreign minister, the Russian ambassador told Radio Monte Carlo that there has been no real progress on the Syrian-Israeli track. He added that the progress that has been reported recently is only relative. This sort of relative progress, he said, has to do with the initial steps, such as creating a suitable atmosphere for the Syrian-Israeli talks. He said: So far, there have been no tangible signs.

Concerning relations between Damascus and Moscow, the Russian ambassador said that Kozyrev's recent visit to Damascus helped a great deal in this field, adding that a Russian delegation will come to Syria before the end of the year to discuss issues related to trade, economic, financial, and scientific cooperation between the two countries. He said that the issue of Syrian debts will also be discussed during the visit of the delegation, which will bring proposals on a mechanism to repay these debts, taking into consideration Syria's real potential.

The Russian ambassador noted that his country will resolve the problem of debts in light of the political dimension, more than the economic dimension, out of its awareness of the importance of Syria and the importance of developing bilateral relations. He said the debts should not obstruct this.

Saudi Foreign Minister Arrives With Message

JN0911112294 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1015 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] His Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, arrived in Damascus this morning. He was received at Damascus International Airport by Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', a number of senior Foreign Ministry officials, the Saudi ambassador in Damascus, and the Embassy staff.

Prince Faysal told a Syrian Arab News Agency correspondent that he is carrying a message from the custodian of the two holy mosques [King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz] to His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad. He added: As is usual, there are constant consultations between the two leaders on regional developments, particularly the peace process and other issues of concern to the region and which require such consultations, especially since we are approaching an important conference—that is, the Islamic conference. The message deals with all these issues.

Meets With al-Asad

JN0911131894 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1215 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad received Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, at al-Rawdah Palace at 1200 today. Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' and the Saudi ambassador in Damascus attended the meeting. [passage omitted]

Delivers Message to al-Asad, Departs

JN0911171194 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1615 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] President Hafiz al-Asad received Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, at al-Rawdah Palace at 1200 today. Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' and the Saudi ambassador in Damascus attended the meeting.

Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal conveyed a message to the president from King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, the custodian of the two holy mosques, that deals with the peace process and the Arab situation. The two sides discussed developments in the peace process on all tracks and the overall Arab situation. Discussions also dealt with issues of concern to the two sisterly countries. [passage omitted]

His Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal left Damascus this evening after a brief visit to the Syrian Arab Republic. He was seen off at Damascus International Airport by Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', a number of senior Foreign Ministry officials, the Saudi ambassador in Damascus, and the embassy staff.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Predeparture Statements Reported

JN0911195294 Damascus Syrian Arab Television Network in Arabic 1830 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Before leaving Damascus, [Saudi Foreign Minister] Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal said that Syria and Saudi Arabia stand in one trench and that they are considered one party in the peace process, which concerns all Arabs. In statements to reporters, he said that the Saudi and Syrian viewpoints, as well as the viewpoints of President Hafiz al-Asad and King Fahd, the custodian of the two holy mosques, are identical regarding all the issues discussed. He added that King Fahd's message to President al-Asad today comes within the framework of coordination between the two leaders. Prince Faysal said he was glad to meet with President Hafiz al-Asad, pointing out President al-Asad's sharp vision and his constant positions on Arab issues.

The foreign minister of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia left Damascus this evening after a brief visit to the Syrian Arab Republic. [passage omitted]

Vice President Returns From Medical Trip

JN0811141894 Amman AL-BILAD in Arabic 9 Nov 94 p 1

[FBIS Translated Text] AL-BILAD has learned that Syrian Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam has recently returned to Damascus after receiving medical treatment in Europe, where a cancerous tumor was removed from his stomach. Earlier reports spoke about the deterioration of the health of Khaddam, who is considered the top Syrian official in charge of the Lebanese file. AL-BILAD's information, however, has confirmed that Khaddam resumed his usual duties a few days ago.

Columnist: Arabs 'Only Losers' at Casablanca Summit

JN0911161194 Damascus AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 3 Nov 94 p 8

["People's Talk" column by Bassam Ja'arah: "The Casablanca Summit Again?!"]

[FBIS Transiated Text] What we expected happened. This expectation was not based on prophecy or some sort of fortune telling. Indeed, it was based on the preparations for the Casablanca economic summit on the Middle East and North Africa. These preparations were so clear that any observer could predict the results ahead of time. The preparations were 100 percent in favor of Israel, despite the fact that establishing a development bank is the idea of the number two man in the IMF. But, who can deny that the efforts of the IMF and other international funds are devoted toward reinforcing the Israeli onslaught on the Arab markets?

We already said that Israel will be the winner and the Arab countries taking part in the conference will be the losers. This is what actually happened, but with one small difference. Israel was not just the winning party, it was the only winning party. Moreover, the participating Arab countries were the only losers. Not only that, the large Israeli presence in Casablanca, which made it appear that there was no one left in Israel, frightened even those who were counting the days and the hours to go to Casablanca and take part in the conference.

What is ironic is that while the winning and losing parties were seriously discussing the issue of lifting the boycott of Israel, Israel was enforcing not only a military but also an economic siege on Gaza and the West Bank to subjugate our Palestinian Arab people. Despite all this, the conferees were discussing the economic future of the Middle East. The discussions, from A to Z, were aimed at achieving Israel economic gains that it could not obtain during the war.

The meetings of the Casablanca economic summit are over, but its repercussions began to appear before the conference was even convened. The basic results, which any observer could deduce from reading the headlines of the conference, are that Israel wants to have the whole pie. In the end, it also wants to turn every Arab citizen throughout the Arab land into a taxpayer for the Israeli coffers.

Paper Attacks Casablanca Summit, 'Peres' Mideast Plan

JN0911205594 Damascus AL-BA'TH in Arabic 4 Nov 94 p 3

["With the Events" column by Jibarah al-Barghuthi: "They Are Making Moves to Achieve Union and Denying the Arabs the Chance to Achieve Unity"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Europeans are engaged in an effort to achieve European unity. They view their unity as a strategic objective and purpose desired by all. As for the countries of North America and South America, they look forward to the day when they will be able to merge into a single bloc that is capable of charting a new course for their peoples so that they may achieve their aspirations. The same holds true for the countries and peoples of the Far East, where efforts are under way to create an economic entity capable of meeting future challenges, particularly those related to science and technology.

It is only the Arabs who are lagging behind and waiting for others to plan their future. That is why we have seen them unusually enthusiastic about involving their historical and mortal enemy in planning their own future. The party that has usurped their lands cannot be honest, nor can it work in earnest in its efforts to meet their needs and requirements, for that matter. Well, the Arabs have chosen to overlook this basic fact.

The current political state of affairs shows that Europe seeks to achieve unity. Nonetheless, it is opposed to efforts to achieve any form of Arab unity. The same can be said about the United States and the Far East.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

The reason is that they all want the Arab region to remain a market for the products of industrialized nations, which are determined to fight the aspirations of Third World nations.

At present, small entities are incapable of protecting their own political and economic security. In the future, they will remain incapable of doing so. This holds true for the Arab states.

Israel, which seeks to realize its Torah-inspired Zionist plan, has always looked forward to the day when it will establish close cooperation with certain Arab states. It has managed to realize this Zionist wish. Israel's penetration of Arab countries demonstrates that the Arabs have scarified their political, social, and economic ambitions.

Because greater entities are capable of swallowing smaller ones, it is inevitable that Israel, which is supported by the United States and Europe, will revive colonial rule in the region. Israel will be the leader of the region's colonial regime. In this regime, Israel will control all Arab resources.

Hence the following questions: Why have the Arabs abandoned their plans to launch a common Arab market? Why have they failed to lend adequate support to the Economic Unity Council at a time when they are showing enthusiasm to subscribe to Peres' plan, which is meant to be the vehicle for realizing the Torah-inspired Zionist plan at the expense of the Arabs—territory, people, heritage, and civilization?

Prime Minister Briefs Ba'th Officials on Economy

JN0711071094 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0515 GMT 7 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The comrade secretaries of the [Ba'th] Party's branches and governors resumed their meetings last night under comrade Dr. Sulayman Qaddah, assistant regional secretary of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party.

The meeting was attended by comrades People's Assembly Speaker 'Abd-al-Qadir Qaddurah, Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi, members of the Regional Command, the two deputy prime ministers, ministers, deputy directors of Regional Command bureaus, the head of the Party's Control and Inspection Committee, heads of popular organizations and professional associations, head of the Central Control and Inspection Organization, university presidents, and the directors of media institutions. [passage omitted]

Comrade Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi made a comprehensive review of the various economic and services issues. He explained the policies, measures, and arrangements taken to deal with issues of the national economy in the agricultural and industrial fields, as well as in other production and services fields. [passage omitted]

New Oil Discoveries Said To Increase Output

JN0811150194 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 3 Nov 94 p 4

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Damascus—Oil sources have told AL-BAYAN that the new oil discoveries in the Dayr al-Zawr Governorate have increased Syrian oil output to approximately 700,000 barrels per day [bpd]. The sources' estimates put the new increase in oil output at 100,000 bpd of light crude. According to official statistics, Syria produces a maximum of 600,000 bpd. [passage omitted]

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Afghanistan

Attack by Hekmatyar Forces 'Foiled'; Dozens Killed

LD0911180694 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1530 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] An attack by the Golboddin [Hekmatyar] militia has been defeated in the eastern part of Kabul. A security source reported to the military correspondent of the BAKHTAR INFORMATION AGENCY that Golboddin's militia launched an unsuccessful attack on the positions of the Islamic army last night and today around 0500 from the directions of Arzan Qaymat, Alukhel, and Shena. This attack was foiled and the enemy was forced to retreat as a result of resistance by the mojahedin and forces of the Islamic army.

In the course of this attack, dozens of militiamen were killed and dozens of others were wounded and forced to leave the battlefront. In a series of air raids, the country's fighter planes bombarded the concentration points and positions of the Golboddin militia. As a result of this bombardment, heavy losses were inflicted on the demoralized militiamen.

The security source added: The militia losses amount to dozens of men as a result of today's attack. Golboddin's militiamen have not yet succeeded in removing the corpses of their dead men. The benefit of this destruction and militia losses was nothing to Hekmatyar except for the loss of his men and positions.

According to another report, Golboddin's militia fired dozens of rockets at the residential areas of Kabul city during the past 24 hours. The Kabul garrison reported that, as a result of today's rocket attack, five innocent citizens of Kabul were martyred and another 17 people were injured.

Refugees Present 'Sound Proposals' to Hezb-e Eslami

LD0911230394 (Clandestine) Radio Message of Freedom in Pashto to Afghanistan 0730 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] A number of officials and elders of various [Afghan] refugee camps in Pakistan met with esteemed Engineer Qotboddin Helal, head of political affairs of the Hezb-e Eslami [Islamic Party]. [passage omitted]

The report [by a Radio Message of Freedom correspondent] adds that the representatives spoke in turn and stated their proposals and problems to the esteemed Helal. The proposals were on the formation of an interim government and the future fate of the country. In response to their sound proposals, the esteemed Helal explained the policy of Hezb-e Eslami and the High Coordination Council. He told them that the latter share their views, and are making every effort to restore peace and security, but the coalition administration of Kabul is obstructing the restoration of peace and security in the country.

Our correspondent adds that after talks with esteemed brother Helal, representatives of the refugees asked him to arrange an appointment for them to meet with brother Hekmatyar, leader of the Islamic revolution of the country. The report adds that brother Helal welcomed their good opinions and promised them that he would make an appointment for them very soon to meet with brother Hekmatyar.

State High Council Discusses 'Peace Efforts'

LD0911175494 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1530 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The press office of the Presidency reported to the BAKHTAR INFORMATION AGENCY that the High Council session of the Islamic State of Afghanistan, chaired by esteemed Professor Borhanoddin Rabbani, president of the Islamic State of Afghanistan, was held this morning.

At this session, which continued for three hours, discussion was held on peace efforts and necessary decisions were made. The session was attended by esteemed Professor Abdorrab Rasul Sayyaf, esteemed Mowlawi Mohammad Shah Fazli, Chief Justice; esteemed Hojjat-ol Eslam Sayd Mohammad 'Ali Jawid, Minister of Planning; esteemed Hojjat-ol Eslam Mohammad Akbar Akbari; esteemed Engineer Ahmad Shah Ahmadzai; esteemed Jalilollah Mowlawizada; esteemed Sayd Hosayn Anwari and esteemed Hojjat-ol Eslam Alemi Balkhi.

President Rabbani Receives Sudanese Delegation

LD0911181694 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1530 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The press Office of the Presidency reported to the BAKHTAR Information Agency that esteemed Professor Borhanoddin Rabbani, President of the Islamic State of Afghanistan, received a Sudanese delegation this afternoon. The meeting was also attended by esteemed Pohand Abdorrab Rasul Sayyaf, amir of the Ettehad-e Eslami of Afghanistan [Islamic Union of Afghanistan]. At this meeting peace efforts were discussed.

Iran

Government Air Raid on DPK Headquarters Viewed

DPK on Regime's 'Crime'

NC1011065794 (Clandestine) Voice of Iranian Kordestan in Persian 1630 GMT 9 Nov 94

[Statement by the Political Bureau of the Democratic Party of Kordestan, DPK, on 9 November 1994]

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

[FBIS Translated Text] Respectable people of Kordestan, [words indistinct], and (?world) forums: Today, Wednesday, 18 Aban 1373, 9 November 1994, at 0945 Tehran time, one Iranian jet fighter severely bombed one of the headquarters of the DPK Political Bureau near Kuysanjaq city in Iraq's (?Hawler) Province, and while inflicting great material damage, also wounded three party combatants. One Iraqi Kurdish woman was killed in this air raid.

The new aggression by the Islamic Republic's Air Force took place at a point that is more than 60 km inside Iraqi territory and is situated in an area that has been declared a no-fly zone by the Western allies.

This attempt by the Islamic Republic of Iran is actually a violation of the territorial integrity of a neighboring country and ridicules all decisions and norms acceptable by the international community. It scoffs at the group of Western forces that have apparently established a no-fly zone to protect the Iraqi Kurds.

Now that we have uncovered this crime by the regime, we call on the public in Iran and the world and on international circles to voice their protest against this crime and to prevent the repetition of such aggressions and law violations. It seems that now that the regime is to be disgraced in two courtrooms in Berlin and Paris, its officials want to distract the international community toward such mischief and to thus release themselves from the pressure of world public opinion.

We hope that the international community will not fall into this trap set by the Islamic Republic and will foil and condemn forever the regime's efforts on both scenes. We hope that a decisive stance will be adopted.

[Signed] The Democratic Party of Kordestan, Political Bureau

[Dated] 18 Aban 1373 [9 November 1994].

DPIK: Raid Violates Exclusion Zone

NC0911220494 Paris AFP in English 2105 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] Paris, Nov 9 (AFP)—Iranian air strikes Wednesday on targets in northern Iraq resulted in deaths and injuries among the local Kurdish population, a Kurdish group opposed to the Tehran government claimed. It said that the raids violated the United Nations aerial exclusion zone north of the 36th parallel, established to protect the Kurdish population from attacks by Iraqi warplanes.

In a statement to AFP in Paris the Democratic Party of Iranian Kordestan (DPIK) said that on Wednesday at 9.45 a.m. (0645 GMT) six Iranian fighters bombarded buildings inhabited by the families of peshmergas (Kurdish guerrillas) and members of the DPIK. It said that the buildings were attacked in spite of being inside the UN protection zone and that some of those inside were killed or injured.

"Taking advantage of the silence and indifference of the international community, the Iranian regime is systematically and quite unscrupulously violating all international laws and conventions," the statement said.

The DPIK said it was once again asking the UN and its member states, as well as all bodies working for peace, to condemn the Islamic Republic of Iran and to bring pressure to bear to stop Iran committing barbaric acts against civilians. [passage omitted]

Radio Expresses Condolences

NC1011110794 (Clandestine) Voice of Iranian Kordestan in Persian 1000 GMT 10 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Dear listeners: As announced in the statement issued by the Political Bureau of the Democratic Party of Kordestan [DPK] yesterday, Wednesday, 18 Abaran 1373 [9 November 1994] at 0945 Tehran time, six fighters and bombers of the Islamic Republic of Iran carried out a raid on one of the headquarters of the DPK Political Bureau in Kuysanjaq city in Iraqi Kurdistan, 60 km inside Iraqi territory, and heavily bombed the area.

Although the regime's F-5's and F-14's faced a severe attack by our party's air defense, they dropped eight 250-kg and 125-kg bombs and a large number of rockets at the headquarters, while at the same time firing [word indistinct] at the headquarters.

As a result of this criminal act by the retrogressive clerics, unfortunately three party combatants were wounded and a 30-year old Iraqi woman named (Hawdat), the daughter of 'Uthman, resident of [name indistinct] village in Kuysanjaq District in Iraqi Kurdestan, was killed.

While expressing our wishes for the rapid recovery of the wounded, the Voice of Iranian Kordestan extends its condolences and sympathies to the family and relatives of the victim and to the residents of her village and shares their grief.

Komeleh Party 'Condemns' Raids

NC1011105894 (Clandestine) Voice of Iranian Kordestan in Persian 1000 GMT 10 Nov 94

["Text" of message from the Komeleh Party Central Committee to the Democratic Party of Kordestan on 9 November; place not given]

[FBIS Translated Text] Warm greetings to the DPK Political Bureau: We were informed today that several fighters of the Islamic Republic of Iran bombed the area where your central bases are located. The Islamic Republic's attack inside the territory of Iraqi Kurdistan is not only an attack on the DPK but an overt aggression against the freedom and security of the people of Iraqi Kurdistan.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

We strongly condemn this incident and hope that you were not harmed.

[Signed] The Komeleh Party Central Committee, Ebrahim 'Alizadeh

[Dated] 18 Aban 1373 [9 November 1994]

Kurds, DPK Meet on Air Strike

NC1011104594 (Clandestine) Voice of Iranian Kordestan in Persian 1000 GMT 10 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Following the bombing of one of the headquarters of our party's Political Bureau at 1400 yesterday, Wednesday, 18 Aban 1373 [9 November 1994], a delegation from the Socialist Party of Kurdistan of Turkey visited the Political Bureau of the Democratic Party of Kordestan. During a meeting with our party's comrades, the delegation strongly condemned the clerical regime's act and expressed its sympathies with our party.

In relation to the same incident, a delegation from the [name indistinct] Organization of Turkish Kurdistan visited our party's Political Bureau at (?1500) on the same day and in their discussions with comrades and co-combatants of the DPK, they strongly condemned the Islamic Republic's attempt and expressed their sympathies for our party.

Border Attacks Cited in Letter to Butrus-Ghali

NC1011065894 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0430 GMT 10 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] In a letter to the UN secretary general, the Islamic Republic of Iran has explained its recent steps in confronting counterrevolutionaries based in Iraq. IRNA reports that Khoshru, our ambassador to the United Nations, stated in a letter to Butrus-Ghali yesterday that the Islamic Republic of Iran has repeatedly explained that the border attacks and the subversive operations against Iranian border villages and cities by terrorist groups based in Iraq is unacceptable and a blatant violation of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of his country.

The letter also states that the Islamic Republic of Iran has always protested to the government of Iraq on the presence of terrorist groups in Iraqi territory and on the military, financial, logistical, and intelligence assistance extended by Iraq to these groups.

The letter from our ambassador to the United Nations stresses that in response to recent attacks by terrorist groups based in Iraq against Iranian citizens and oil installations, and on the basis of the article stated in Paragraph 51 of the UN Charter, the Islamic Republic of Iran carried out two necessary and deterrent operations during the current week.

Envoy to UN Cited on Iraqi-Based 'Terrorist' Groups

LD1011115894 Tehran IRNA in English 1034 GMT 10 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] United Nations, New York, Nov. 10, IRNA—Iran's Ambassador to the United Nations Gholamali Khoshrou informed the U.N. chief of Iran's latest activities against the terrorist groups based in Iraq.

In a letter to the Secretary-General Butrus Butrus-Ghali Wednesday [9 November], Khoshrou stressed that Iran had, on numerous occasions, notified the Government of Iraq of its serious concern about and the unacceptability of border attacks and sabotage operations by terrorist groups against Iranian border towns which originate from the territory of Iraq and constitute a grave violation of sovereignty and territorial integrity of Iran.

The letter said that Iran had consistently objected to the Government of Iraq for the presence in its territory of terrorist groups enjoying its military, financial, logistical and intelligence supports. It further pointed out that over the past weeks, the terrorist groups had intensified their bombing campaigns and armed attacks against civilians and oil installations in Iran resulting in martyrdom of a number of Iranian nationals and material damage.

Referring to two proportional and necessary steps Iran took in this regard, the letter remarked that Iranian border guards targeted the retreating terrorist agents and their training camp in the territory of Iraq on 7 November.

On 9 November, the letter added, the air force as well conducted a defensive operation of a limits inherent right to self-defence in accordance with Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations, Iran reiterated once again its respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Iraq.

The letter is expected to be circulated as a document of the Security Council within the next few days.

CFK Cites 'War-mongering' Policy of Regime

NC1011090494 (Clandestine) Voice of Mojahed in Persian 0700 GMT 10 Nov 94

["Text" of a statement issued by the Cherikha-ye Feda'i-ye Khalq organization on 6 November; place not given]

[FBIS Translated Text] Early this morning, Sunday, 15 Aban 1373 [6 November 1994], the criminal clerical regime fired three Scud-B missiles at a National Liberation Army [NLA] base. This criminal act by the regime of the Islamic Republic is a blatant violation of international laws and is yet another manifestation of the suppressive and war-mongering policy of this regime.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

With their aggressive act, the reactionary clerics ruling our country have once again proven that they do not observe any international norm or law. The systematic suppression of the Iranian people, plotting against resistance, creation of tension and spread of terrorism in the region, persistent and overt obstructionism in the Middle East peace process, and so on are among the daily acts of the reactionary regime ruling Iran.

However, the clergymen are committing these reactionary acts, breaching laws, and resorting to international (?brigandry) at a time when they have been given the green light by some well-known circles in large countries. The recent hypocritical report by the U.S. State Department, which was published following efforts by the continuers of the disgraceful Irangate scandal, and by oil and arms circles in America against Iranian resistance, is an outstanding example of this.

While decisively condemning the missile raid on Ashraf base, the CFK [Cherikha-ye Feda'i-ye Khalq] persistently calls on the compatriots abroad, international forums, institutions defending human rights, and all the political forces and circles in the world that are aware of the dangers emanating from the growth of Islamic fundamentalism—the heart and brain of which is the clerical regime ruling Iran—to decisively voice their opposition of the criminal acts by the religious dictatorship and terrorist regime ruling Iran.

[Signed] Cherikha-ye Feda'iy-ye Khalq of Iran organization

[Dated] 15 Aban 1373 [6 November 1994]

'Terrorist Agents' Arrested: 'Big Bombs Seized'

LD0911151494 Tehran IRNA in English 1452 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tehran, Nov. 9, IRNA—The terrorist agents of a counterrevolutionary team attempting to plant bombs in western parts of the country were arrested Monday evening, a security official in western Iran told IRNA today. He did not disclose their number.

According to the source, following the arrest of some counterrevolutionaries late in October, they disclosed information that anti-revolutionaries intended to send terrorists for bombings in western cities of the country. The source said that most of the terrorist members of the counter-revolutionary teams have been arrested and at least five small and big bombs seized from them.

Government Spokesman Discusses Regional Issues

LD0911174294 Tehran IRNA in English 1722 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tehran, Nov. 9, IRNA—Iran is a nation more victimized by terrorism than any other nation and considers it within its right to counter terrorism by any means necessary, a Foreign Ministry's spokesman, Mahmud Mohammadi, told IRNA Wednesday evening.

While stressing that Iran's anti-terrorism campaign is not directed against Iraq, Mohammadi said that the Iranian officials cautioned their Iraqi counterparts that they should not let their soil to become a haven for terrorists.

On the United Arab Emirates (UAE) claims that certain countries including France will support it in taking legal action in The Hague tribunal, Mohammadi said according to the international law bringing a case to the court depends on two parties' concensus and does not depend on third parties.

Asked to comment on the fact that China had declined take a position on the UAE claim, Mohammadi said Beijing has taken a logical and principled stance in this regard. He also made it clear that Iran was opposed to taking the case to The Hague court.

As for Iraqi recognition of the Kuwait borders, Mohammadi said that Tehran always held the view that restoration of peace in the region depends on cessation of all territorial claims in the sensitive region of Persian Gulf and recognition of the existing borders in the region.

Asked what he thought of the Iraqi move to recognize the Zionist regime, he expressed regret over illegal moves by certain countries in the region to tackle their transient problems.

UK Foreign Office Said To View MKO as 'Terrorist'

LD1011083294 Tehran IRNA in English 0659 GMT 10 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] London, Nov. 9, IRNA—A spokesman for the British Foreign Office said that London's stand on the terrorist Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization (MKO) had not changed and Britian still considered the grouplet as a 'terrorist organization'.

The spokesman told IRNA here that London had no sort of connection with the MKO which had terrorist activities in Iran. It had never supported the grouplet and would never back it, he added.

The U.S. State Department in a report to the Congress last week expressed similiar attitudes towards the terrorist grouplet.

The report, pointing to the murders, kidnapping, torture of the opponents, assassinations and bombing done by the grouplet, referred to it as an organization with a long record of terrorist activities.

Despite the report, some groups within the U.S. political structure, referred to by the ASSOCIATED PRESS last

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

week as pressure groups, in a move contrary to the international law, hinder Washington from cutting its aid to the grouplet.

It is said that there are some Zionist-backed members of the U.S. Congress who support the MKO.

The 'CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR' and the 'WASHINGTON TIMES' in recent weeks wrote about the MKO activities in the U.S. Congress and using some of its facilities by them.

Tehran To Sell 2 Million Tons of Oil for Kazakhstan

LD0911222294 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1830 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The Oil Company of the Islamic Republic of Iran announced in Alma-Ata [Almaty] that it is ready for cooperation and investment in Central Asian countries. Engineer Sheybani, the representative of the Oil Company of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Alma-Ata, referring to a company proposal for the construction of a motor oil complex in Kazakhstan, said: The transfer of 2 million tons of crude oil from Kazakhstan through the Caspian Sea, and the sale of an equivalent amount in the south of Iran has been agreed by both countries.

East European States Favor Industrial Cooperation

LD0811204794 Tehran IRNA in English 2004 GMT 8 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Arak (Central Prov.), Nov. 8, IRNA—Deputy Industries Minister for International Affairs, Husayn Eshqi, has said several European countries are willing to utilize Iran's industrial potentials for joint projects in the Middle East, Central Asia and Africa.

Eshqi, who led a team of representatives from Romania, Czech, Bulgaria and Poland, to this industrial city (248 kms southwest of Tehran), said economic and commercial officials of the said states had suggested that Iran assist Romania in setting up a cement factory in Turkmenistan. He said the four East European countries had also expressed their willingness to upgrade economic and industrial relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Eshqi said the two-day visit to Arak was aimed at exploring ways for cooperation between Iran and the said countries to jointly manufacture technical equipment, exchange industrial information and transfer technology.

Nateq-Nuri for Improved Russia, Indonesian Ties

LD0811210894 Tehran IRNA in English 1935 GMT 8 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tehran, Nov. 8, IRNA—The Iranian ambassador to Russia, Medhi Safari, who is on a homecoming visit, called on the Majles Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Akbar Nateq-Nuri here today.

Nateq-Nuri in his meeting with Safari underlined expansion of Tehran-Moscow political and economic relations, facilities for exports and imports, bilateral [word indistinct] in the region, Central Asia and the Caucasus as well as parliamentary relations through exchange of parliamentary delegations to each other.

Later in the day the speaker received Iran's new ambassador to Indonesia, Seyyed Mohsen Nabavi, and briefed on the need for expansion of Tehran-Jakarta relations in the various political, economic and cultural areas, especially on ties between the two countries' parliaments.

Ambassador's Visit With DPRK Minister Viewed

LD0811215994 Tehran IRNA in English 2143 GMT 8 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Peking, Nov. 8, IRNA—Iran's ambassador to Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), Morteza Mirheydari and North Korean Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam Tuesday in Pyongyang reviewed expansion of bilateral relations. Nam who is also North Korea's deputy premier termed the two countries ties as close and expressed hope that mutual cooperation would further expand.

Voicing Iran's readiness to promote Tehran-Pyongyang political and economic relations, Mirheydari called on [Kim Yong-]nam to visit the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Va'ezi Receives German Envoy, Urges More Ties

LD0911202894 Tehran IRNA in English 2003 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tehran, Nov. 9, IRNA—Deputy Foreign Minister for European and American Affairs Mahmud Va'ezi here today in a meeting with the visiting director-general of the German Foreign Ministry Walou, called for expansion of relations between Tehran and Bonn during the new term of Chancellor Helmut Kohl's cabinet.

In the meeting, Va'ezi emphasized on the need for mutual cooperation between the two governments and authorities. He also voiced the Iranian readiness to bring about the necessary measures for cooperation among the regional states to help bring about stability and security in the region. Va'ezi referred to the situation in the Persian Gulf, Central Asian republics and the Balkans and said that the recent military victories by the Bosnian Muslims will help peace in the Balkans. He also called for lifting of arms embargo against Bosnia.

Describing the works already done by Germany during its presidential period over the European Union, Walou referred to the recent developments in Bosnia and said it will pave the way for peaceful solution of the crisis. He assessed as "positive" the connection between the international contact groups and the contact group of the

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC) for solution of the Bosnian issue. Waleu expressed hope that with Kohl's reelection the two countries would further strengthen their relations.

Commentary on King Husayn's Visit to Israel

LD1011124494 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran in English 1130 GMT 10 Nov 94

[Station commentary]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] King Husayn of Jordan is to open his first official visit to the occupied Palestine on Thursday, November the 10th, despite the continued occupation of that land by Israel for nearly five decades.

During the visit, he is expected to meet Yitzhaq Rabin, the prime minister of the Zionist regime, and hold talks with him. The visit of King Husayn to the occupied Palestine comes at a time when Jordan's 14-member senate, whose representatives have been named by the king, approved the Amman-Tel Aviv peace agreement yesterday. Subsequently the agreement was finally approved by a decree issued by him.

Earlier, the 18-member Jordanian parliament had passed a compromise agreement. In this way, with the approval of the compromise agreement by both houses of parliament in Jordan, the process on enforcement of various paragraphs of the accord has started officially.

Therefore, the ministers of transportation of Jordan and the Zionist regime, as the first step toward enforcement of the compromise accord, are to inaugurate the border passage located between the Jordan River and Tiberias Lake in the occupied Palestine.

Following the inaugural of the border passage, King Husayn and Yitzhaq Rabin will meet to exchange the documents of the peace agreement, which was signed by the two sided last October 26.

In any case, Jordan is the second Arab state after Egypt to set up political and economic ties with the Zionist regime. These relations are tantamount to according recognition to the usurping presence of Israel in the Middle East by these countries.

In the opinion of political analysts, the agreement concluded by Amman and Tel Aviv extends maximum concessions to Israel. Every paragraph of the compromise agreement stipulates preservation of the Zionist regime's border security and continued Israeli occupation of the regions which have reportedly been restored to Jordan.

In fact, it can be explicitly said that the Jordan-Israel agreement and even similar accords signed between Israel and other Arab states earlier are designed at realizing the hegemonistic objectives of the Zionist regime. The reason is that the Israeli regime has constantly refused to restore the occupied lands in accordance with the UN resolutions through creating discord among Arab states, and by violating the initial framework of the Arab-Israeli talks.

Hence on account of the Israeli obstructions to the enforcement of the Gaza-Jericho agreement, the Amman government should not be optimistic about the Zionist regime's obligations toward Jordan.

Therefore, it is predicted that in view of opposition within the country, King Husayn has a difficult task ahead.

Pakistan

Leghari Views Malakand Situation, Air Force

BK0811143594 Islamabad PTV Television Network in English 1300 GMT 8 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] President Farooq Ahmad Khan Leghari has said the government is capable enough to establish its writ and authority across the country whenever there is any problem endangering the law and order situation.

Talking to newsmen at the conclusion of PAF [Pakistan Air Force] change of command ceremony in Chaklala today, the president said the government has shown tremendous amount of tolerance because it believes in democratic norms. However, if certain elements indulge in terrorism, subversive activities, and agitation, it is obligatory for the government to provide security to the citizens and maintain peace.

He said it is the responsibility of the opposition to offer constructive criticism of the government's policies. Likewise, it is the responsibility of the government to take notice of the criticism with the adoption of corrective measures. He said the government and the opposition will have to operate in a democratic framework. The president said opposition parties are working for strengthening the democratic system and institutions, but some hawkish elements resort to violence, which causes problems for the country and the supreme national interest.

In reply to a question on Malakand situation, the president said on suggestion of the NWFP [North-West Frontier Province] Government, the federal government had studied and finalized the proposals regarding application of the laws of inheritance and prevention as demanded by the people of Malakand. The president said he had signed the document for enforcement of these laws. He wondered why a situation was created later and the state authority was challenged, necessitating use of limited force to bring the situation under control. The president regretted the loss of lives and advised the people to remain calm and peaceful.

Earlier, addressing the Pakistan Air Force change of command ceremony in Chaklala, the president said every effort will be made to ensure a strong air capability

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

commensurate with the growing importance of air power in the present-day strategic concept. The president said:

[Begin Leghari recording] The role of air power continues to gain importance and Pakistan, despite financial constraints, would endeavor to ensure a strong air capability. Government must continue its efforts to obtain state-of-the-art weapon systems from wherever possible. We must also develop our indigenous capability in avionics and weapons research and production. It is our firm belief that strength deters aggression. We have to redouble our efforts to maintain the reputation that our armed forces have so deservedly acquired. [end recording]

The outgoing chief of air staff, Air Chief Marshal Farooq Feroze Khan, lauded the role of Air Force in war and peace. He said Pakistan Air Force has now developed into a strong fighting machine and a vehicle to provide impregnable air defense to the country.

Later, the new chief of air staff, Mohammad Abbas Khattak, was presented with the rank which made him the new air chief marshal and the command said which makes him head the PAF as its 14th chief of the air staff. [sentence as heard]

Air Chief Marshal Mohammad Abbas Khattak in his speech expressed his determination to serve the Air Force in accordance with the changing requirements of air warfare. He assured he would make every endeavor toward the development and progress of the Air Force, which has already attained the status of a dynamic air power. Later, a contingent of airmen presented march past. This was followed by a flypast by formations of F-16's, F-7's, Mirages, and A-5's.

Peace Restored; Hostages Released

BK0911144094 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in English 1400 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Peace has been restored all over the Malakand Division. All the hostages in Dir area have been released and the supporters of Tehrik-i-Nifaz-i-Shariat-i-Mohammadi [name as heard] have destroyed their trenches. A member of the NWFP [North-West Frontier Province] cabinet, Dr. Mahbubur Rahman, told Radio Pakistan's representative in Peshawar today that educational institutions are expected to be open tomorrow. He assured that shari'ah laws as announced by the chief minister would be implemented soon.

Bhutto Establishes Nuclear Regulatory Board

BK0911122894 Lahore JANG in Urdu 9 Nov 94 pp 1, 5

[FBIS Translated Text] Islamabad (APP)—Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto has ordered the immediate establishment of the Pakistan Nuclear Regulatory Board [PNRB]. The prime minister issued this order in her capacity as the nuclear regulatory authority and in view of the importance of nuclear energy development in Pakistan and the need for implementing international safety regulations. The board will consist of a chairman and three full-time and five part-time members.

The Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission's chairman, by virtue of his existing position, will serve as chairman of the PNRB, while the director general of the Directorate of Nuclear Safety and Radiation Protection [DNSRP] will be a member and secretary of the PNRB on the basis of his existing position. Executive members of the Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission will serve as members of the PNRB, while five senior scientists, engineers and experts—not from the Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission—will compose the part-time members of the regulatory body which will oversee and review the working of the DNSRP and approve necessary rules and procedures.

The PNRB will also approve the setting up of advisory or other committees, hear appeals from party's affected by DNSRP rulings, and approve the policy for license fee exemption and general policies regarding the revenue and funds of the DNSRP which will be responsible for meeting the requirements of the nuclear safety and radiation protection. The members, secretary, and five part-time members of the PNRB will be appointed by the Government of Pakistan for three years, but they will be eligible for reappointment. The Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission will acquire a separate budget for the Pakistan Nuclear Regulatory Board.

France Urged To Honor Nuclear Reactor Deal

BK0811140894 Lahore JANG in Urdu 7 Nov 94 p 14

[Editorial: "The Sale of the Nuclear Plant—President Mitterrand's Promise"]

[FBIS Translated Text] French President Mitterrand has assured Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto that he will use his influence to ensure the completion of a deal with Pakistan to supply a 900-megawatt nuclear reactor. He also said that he will contact India in connection with the situation in occupied Kashmir and convey Pakistan's feelings and concerns to New Delhi.

As a result of the prime minister's visit to France, agreements worth $710 million have been signed and France has increased its aid to Pakistan to 40 million francs. During talks with French leaders, the purchase of Mirage 2000-5 aircraft from France also came up for discussion and the two sides expressed their viewpoints on this issue.

Viewed as a whole, the prime minister's visit to France has been successful in every respect. It is hoped that the French investment delegation, scheduled to visit Pakistan by the end of the month, will be satisfied with the investment opportunities available in various sectors in Pakistan and will sign memorandums of understanding to implement a few projects here.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Pakistan initiated negotiations for the purchase of a 900-megawatt nuclear reactor from France during the first term of office of Prime Minister Bhutto, and during his visit to Pakistan President Mitterrand made a firm commitment to supply the nuclear plant. Unfortunately, in the wake of the dismissal of Bhutto government, no further progress was made toward concluding this deal. In the meantime, France signed the Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT], and now certain French officials maintain that after becoming a signatory to the treaty, France cannot supply the reactor to Pakistan unless and until Islamabad also signs the NPT. Pakistan's answer to this argument is that the agreement to supply the nuclear plant was reached between the two countries when France had not yet signed the NPT and Paris was free to sell the plant. Under international law, fulfillment of a deal which was concluded before the imposition of any particular condition is binding and, hence, France's signing of the NPT should not obstruct the supply of a nuclear plant to Pakistan.

President Mitterrand's assurance that he will use his influence to persuade the French Government to sell the nuclear plant to Pakistan is encouraging, but the French Government must not forget its ethical and legal responsibilities in this regard. As stated above, France made a firm commitment to provide a 900-megawatt nuclear plant to Pakistan at a time when Paris was not a signatory to any legal provision that restricted the sale of such plants. Hence, the subsequent signing of the treaty should not be used as a pretext or justification for not fulfilling the promise.

In the 1970's, France entered into a firm agreement with Pakistan to sell a nuclear reprocessing plant, but it subsequently failed to honor the accord because of pressures from certain powers and also because of a shift in France's own thinking. Naturally, the cancellation of that deal evoked unfavorable reaction in Pakistan. At that time, too, Pakistan was buying the reprocessing plant with all international safeguards attached, but the deal was canceled unilaterally. The new agreement for the purchase of a 900-megawatt nuclear plant did not violate any international laws or regulations, but, unfortunately, the change of government in Pakistan hampered progress toward concluding this deal. Now, therefore, it would not be appropriate to cancel the agreement on one pretext or another.

Pakistan and France enjoy a very friendly and close relationship. Only recently, Pakistan concluded a major agreement with France to purchase three submarines. Negotiations are also on for the purchases of 40 Mirage aircraft. The French investors are also coming to Pakistan to explore possibilities of investment in this country. President Mitterrand is also considered a friend of Pakistan and of Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, and under this situation France should not decide to cancel the nuclear deal with Pakistan. It is hoped President Mitterrand's overwhelming influence will succeed in persuading the French Government to honor its deal with Pakistan, which needs the nuclear plant to meet energy requirements, not for military purposes. Therefore, France, or for that matter any other power, should not perceive any danger from the conclusion of this deal.

Economic Importance of Nuclear Energy Stressed

BK0911114794 Islamabad PAKISTAN in Urdu 8 Nov 94 p 6

[Editorial: "Measures To Make Full Use of Nuclear Energy"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Dr. Ashfaq Ahmed, chairman of the Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission, has disclosed that an institute for the training of nuclear scientists has been set up and the work of mining and processing uranium and zirconium is continuing in full swing. Steps have been taken to adopt the latest technology to determine the properties of material and to make full use of radio isotopes. Addressing a seminar at Anmol in Lahore, he said the scope of the peaceful use of nuclear energy is being gradually expanded. Everyone is aware that there are several uses for nuclear energy; only by making full use of this potential can our efforts to bring about a healthy change in the socioeconomic condition of the country be fruitful.

Dr. Ashfaq Ahmed has rightly said that the yardsticks by which a country's economic development can be judged are annual per capita energy consumption and per capita income. Now the use of ferrous and nonferrous metals has also been included on this list. In terms of per capita income, Japan ranks first among Asian countries, followed by Australia, South Korea, Malaysia, and Indonesia. Pakistan lags behind all of these countries. Even though Pakistan is not behind these countries in terms of resources, it lacks the necessary skill to fully utilize them; that is why it is still backward.

As stated by Dr. Ashfaq Ahmed, Pakistan does not possess adequate conventional energy resources. To meet this shortage, the production of electricity from nuclear energy is indispensable. Happily, Pakistan possesses the experience to produce electricity from nuclear energy. This is evident in the successful operation of a nuclear power plant in Karachi since 1972. Meanwhile, a 300-megawatt nuclear plant is being set up at Chashma. All of this indicates that the scope of the use of nuclear energy in the country is gradually widening. Dr. Ashfaq Ahmed's disclosure that adequate arrangements have been made for the training of experts working in the field of nuclear science is encouraging because the institute set up for this purpose will be an important vehicle for the development of nuclear science. We will have to provide all kinds of teaching facilities at national universities to promote scientific studies, however, because only the scientists graduating from these universities will be able to make full use of the Atomic Energy Commission's training institute. It is hoped that effective steps will be taken to improve the general standard of education and promote vocational studies in the country.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Article Discusses Purchase of Agosta Submarines

BK1011102994 Karachi DAWN in English 10 Nov 94 p 11

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The purchase last month by Pakistan of three Agosta submarines from France to replace the aging subs of Pakistan Navy has been widely commented upon in the newspapers. Some columnists have expressed doubts and suspicions about whether at all Pakistan needed the subs; others have used the deal to pooh-pooh some persons in the government for alleged kickbacks without, of course, offering any evidence.

The decision to induct three submarines had actually been taken in September 1988 before Ms Bhutto's first government took office. Subsequently, a committee was formed under A.G.N. Kazi to invite bids. Naval experts visited France, Sweden and China. When early this year Pakistan Navy showed interest in the British subs (called Upholder) experts were despatched to the UK as well for technical evaluation.

The Chinese subs (called S-20) lost the race rather early because they did not meet the Navy's technical requirements. Neither the S-20s design is proven nor have these subs become fully operational as yet. However, the submarines offered by the UK, Sweden and France all were found to have their strengths and weaknesses which made the final choice rather difficult.

The British Upholder submarines are very effective but they are equipped only to fire the US made harpoon missiles which Pakistan will have great difficulty in obtaining because of the restrictive Pressler Law. True, the Swedish sub can also be fitted with the much desired French Exocet missiles. But the French have declined to sell their missiles for use on a non-French platform. The communication equipment on the Upholder is the most advanced and sophisticated but this too is of US origin presenting difficulty of procurement.

The Upholder also cannot stay under water for duration considered necessary and desirable from our point of view. Moreover, the British Navy is going nuclear and it is now discarding the rather older generation of Upholder subs. Since there is no further research and development taking place, purchase of Upholders would have been a one-time affair and in the nature of a purely commercial import for Pakistan rather than a comprehensive package involving back-up facilities and real transfer of technology. For these reasons, the Upholder, though possessing many positive features, were not selected.

The Swedish submarines (T-96) have several of the features of the latest and most advanced submarines but these too cannot fire the Exocet. The Exocet is a missile of deadly accuracy having proven its capability in the Falklands war. Although the Swedes offered to remodel the platform and make it Exocet-compatible, the problem of availability of a French missile for a non-French platform still remained. Swedish subs were therefore also not considered prudent.

The French Agosta submarine was found superior in many ways to finally outbid its competitors. It has a weapons system which is close to the most advanced weapons system fitted on the French nuclear attack submarine called La Perie. The special alloy steel used in its construction is not only non-corrosive but also avoids detection even by the latest electro-magnetic detectors.

It is fitted with the most modern fire control system for firing Exocet missiles and torpedoes. The submarine can also remain submerged under water for much longer duration than its competitors—yet another requirement of the Pakistan Navy.

The prestigious JANE'S DEFENCE WEEKLY, in a recent lead article commenting on the deal, said that it was for the time that the Exocet untiship missiles were being exported by France. It also said that the Agosta can stay submerged three to five times longer than is possible with conventional diesel electric propulsion.

Pakistan's entire existing submarines fleet is of French origin. Over the years a large number of officers and seamen have received training in French dockyards; they have to become conversant with the French Navy's peculiarities. A vast maintenance and back-up infrastructure set up by the Pakistan Navy is geared mostly to servicing French-built ships and subs. This was also a supporting factor for the Agosta.

But what clinched the deal was the massive and real transfer of technology accompanying the Agosta offer. Pakistani engineers and technicians will be involved in the building of the first submarine from beginning to end, even though it will be built in a French shipyard. The second submarine will be built in France as well as in Pakistan but the final assembling will be done by the Pakistani engineers. The third sub will be built in the Karachi Shipyard entirely by Pakistani engineers, thus ensuring that complete transfer of technology takes place by the time the three Agostas are inducted into our naval fleet.

In a recent write-up DAWN'S eminent columnist, Mr Ayaz Amir, wondered what was the great hurry to push the subs deal. Yet there were reasons. Apart from the need to replace the ageing Daphnes, any delay in finalising the deal could have deprived Pakistan of a major weapons system and the much needed transfer of technology.

The advanced countries are imposing restrictive regimes on the sale of submarines to developing countries behind the moralistic facade of world peace and stability. There are indications that we might soon have a submarines technology control regime (STCR) on the lines of missile technology control regime (MTCR). An indication of this was provided recently when Russia first dragged its feet on the sale of submarines to Iran and then finally decided to transfer submarines without some sophisticated weapons and sensing equipment.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Sri Lanka

Chandrika Kumaratunga Elected as New President

BK1011052594 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 0333 GMT 10 Nov 94

["Pool Item"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Colombo, 10 Nov (LANKAPUVATH)—Chandrika Bandaranaike-Kumaratunga of the People's Alliance [PA] will be Sri Lanka's new president. Of the results declared so far in 92 electoral divisions, Srima Dissanayake of the United National Party [UNP] has won in only one electoral division and the PA candidate is leading by 1.4 million votes.

Mrs. Kumaratunga will be Sri Lanka's first woman president.

Mrs. Kumaratunga's mother Sirimavo Bandaranaike was the world's first woman prime minister and her father the late prime minister, S. W.R.D. Bandaranaike, ushered in the age of the common man in 1956.

Political analysts say that Prime Minister Kumaratunga's massive landslide victory is a complete denunciation of racism, separatism, bribery, corruption, and violence.

The People's Alliance candidate Chandrika Bandaranaike-Kumaratunga is heading for a landslide victory in Wednesday's poll and romping home to a massive victory.

According to the results declared so far in postal voting and electoral division level, Mrs. Kumaratunga has obtained 1.4 million votes more than her UNP opponent Srima Dissanayake's 2,622,515 votes.

The UNP candidate, Srima Dissanayake, polled 1,647,429 votes. Of the results declared so far, the UNP has polled more votes only in the Mahiyangana electoral division.

Mrs. Kumaratunga had a very large majorities in Kolonnawa, Matara, Mawathagama, Devinuwara, Dambulla, Weligama, Akuressa, Panadura, Kotte and Beruwela.

She obtained 15,993 postal votes in the Colombo District, while Srima Dissanayake polled 6,659 postal votes.

The PA candidate has polled more than 60 per cent in most of the electoral divisions declared so far and is heading for a historic landslide victory.

The People's Alliance has won decisively in many electorates won by the United National Party at the last general elections.

A significant feature of Mrs. Kumaratunga's victory is that she has polled almost double the number of votes obtained by her opponent Mrs. Dissanayake.

Political analysts say that results show that the electorate has convincingly denounced the racist policies of communalists.

The attempt made by extremists to create communal disharmony through the assassination of the opposition leader Gamini Dissanayake, have been soundly defeated.

Mrs. Kumaratunga has won the confidence and the cooperation of the country's majority community as well as its minorities, as the people have overwhelmingly accepted her policies to bring about unity in a sharply divided country.

In electing Mrs. Kumaratunga as Sri Lanka's new president, the people have very clearly accepted the pledges given by the People's Alliance government to abolish the executive presidency to eliminate violence, corruption, and the politics of assassination.

The election results amply demonstrate that the public has stamped its seal of approval to the policies of the PA Government during a short period of two and a half months during which a great deal was done towards solving the more pressing problems of the people and easing their burden.

Independent candidate Hudson Samarasinghe has obtained 32,286 votes; the Sinhalaye Maha Sammatha Bhoomiputhra Party candidate, Dr. Harischandra Wijetunga, obtained 19,822 votes; while independent candidate A.J. Ranasinghe obtained 13,455 votes. Nihal Galappathy, the Sri Lanka Progressive Front candidate who withdrew from the poll, has got 13,007 votes.

Prime Minister Chandrika Bandaranaike-Kumaratunga has urged the public to accept the presidential election results peacefully following the example set at the last general elections.

In an address to the nation over the radio, she recalled that the present government came to power with a pledge to divert the country onto a new path, a path of peace and prosperity, by eliminating terror and restoring peace in this island nation.

The government after assuming office had taken measures to combat terror and protect the people from post election violence.

Action is being taken to build a society where peace and humanness will reign supreme by eliminating terror.

The whole world hailed the peace initiative taken by the people's alliance government to end the 11 year old north east conflict which has so far taken a toll of 30,000 lives.

Urges Acceptance of Results

BK0911154594 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 1337 GMT 9 Nov 94

["Pool Item"]

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Colombo, Nov 9 (LANKAPUVATH)—Prime Minister Chandrika Bandaranaike-Kumaratunga in an address to the nation today, urged the public to accept the presidential election results by following the examples set in the last general election.

The prime minister said the present government came into power with a pledge to divert the country into a new path by eliminating terror and restoring peace in the island. The government after assuming office had taken measures to combat terror campaigns and to protect innocent people from post-election violence. The whole world hails the initiative taken by the People's Alliance administration. She said certain elements might try to provoke people at this crucial hour and urged the public not to be misled by these efforts.

Minister of Information and Aviation Dharmasiri Senanayake, in a statement issued on behalf of the government, has stressed the need to maintain peace in the [country] after the election by joining hands with all activists of political parties.

Opposition leader Ranil Wickremesinghe in another statement has said that the people have been given an opportunity once more to exercise their franchise. He appealed the people to maintain peace today as well as after the election without considering party differences.

Vows To Continue Peace Process

BK1011091894 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 0830 GMT 10 Nov 94

["Pool Item"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Colombo, Nov 10 (LANKAPUVATH)—Chandrika Bandaranaike-Kumaratunga of the ruling People's Alliance (PA) was today elected as the fourth executive president of Sri Lanka after she won the presidential election obtaining 62.27 percent of the votes. Mrs. Kumaratunga got 4,709,205 votes, out of the 7,561,526 valid votes at the election as against 2,715,283 votes obtained by the United National Party candidate Srima Dissanayake, her closest rival, a majority of 1,993,922. Others who contested the election were independent candidates Hudson Samarasinghe (58,886) and A.J. Ranasinghe (22,752), and Dr. Harischandra Wijetunga of the Sinhalaye Mahasammatha Bhoomiputra Party who polled 32,651 votes and the Sri Lanka Progressive Front candidate Nihal Galappathy (22,749) who withdrew in favour of Mrs. Kumaratunga.

Elections Commissioner Chandrananda de Silva made the proclamation at his office at Rajagiriya around 1130 hours (local time) in the presence of Mrs. Kumaratunga, independent presidential candidate A.J. Ranasinghe, government ministers and various other dignitaries.

Addressing the nation after the proclamation, the new Sri Lankan president thanking the people who have in the face of many obstacles upheld the principles of democracy and free election in this country, said this was a victory of millions of dedicated people in this country who watched and waited in silence during the last two decades of harassment, political victimisation, state terror and violence. She pledged to work with dedication for the welfare of the people without resorting to a dictatorship. The PA's victory is clearly one for democratic institutions in the country and for the fundamental rights of individuals and for the freedom of democracy. It is also a massive mandate given by Sri Lankan electors for the economic and other programmes initiated for re-establishing of democracy and human freedom and for the honesty and transparency in public dealings against corruption by the PA government for the past two and a half months. Also a certificate given for the honesty of the government and its sincerity in promoting these measures. It is also a mandate given very clearly and resoundingly for the peace process begun by our government to forge ahead with peace, but not peace at any cost, but negotiated peace where the rights of the majority Sinhala people would be safeguarded and strengthened.

She also pledged to consolidate the victory given by the people by abolishing the executive presidency before the 15th of July next year.

She appealed to all the party supporters to maintain law and order and peace. Anybody involved in acts of violence will be dealt with very severely irrespective of the political party they belong to.

President Wijetunga Gives Farewell Address

BK0911162594 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 1354 GMT 9 Nov 94

["Pool Item"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Colombo, 9 Nov—President D.B. Wijetunga today issued his farewell address to the nation at the conclusion of his stewardship for the past 17 months. In his address to the nation he states:

My dear countrymen: As you know, exactly one and a half years ago consequent to the tragic demise of President Ranasinghe Premadasa, I was elected unanimously by parliament as the president of Sri Lanka. You will recall that the late president's assassination took place at a time when our country was fast recovering from a period of unprecedented terror unleashed by a coterie of misguided youth, who attempted to topple the democratically elected government by the force of arms. Terrorist violence in the north of Sri Lanka too continued during this time with short respites which coincided with peace talks the government of the time had with the rebels.

I am deeply sorry to say that the spectre of terrorism continues to stalk this beautiful and blessed land of ours. The most telling confirmation of this lies in the cruel and senseless assassination of a national leader of the calibre of Mr. Gamini Dissanayake barely two weeks ago. I feel,

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

we should not yield to despair and a sense of helplessness. We should resolve to overcome these obstacles and challenges with courage and determination while pursuing the larger and cherished goal of a united Sri Lanka.

You will recall that President Ranasinghe Premadasa was struck down brutally by an act of terrorism at the height of his stewardship of our country when he was engaged in implementing several programs which were aimed at bringing peace and prosperity to our people. The onerous responsibility of carrying these programs and projects to fruition while maintaining law and order and communal harmony fell on me. The expectations which our people held out at that time were reflected in the unanimous vote of approval of my nomination by parliament in May 1993.

The day I was elected president unanimously by parliament, I must say, was one of the most memorable days in my life. I was overwhelmed by the fund of goodwill shown by all members of parliament on both sides of the house. This made me resolve to reciprocate in equal measure by extending whatever support and assistance possible to each and everyone of them, irrespective of communal considerations and party affiliations.

During the one and a half years of my trusteeship of our country I have made every endeavor to fulfil the responsibilities of my office with all sincerity and to the best of my ability. I have sought to do so within the provisions of the Constitution and the due processes of law. By and large, I have been successful in maintaining law and order, communal harmony, and above all, the momentum of economic growth. At the same time, I have remained faithful to the Republic of Sri Lanka. Have to the best of my ability, upheld and defended the Constitution of Sri Lanka against separatist terrorism.

The long and protracted reign of terror in the North has levied a heavy toll on the lives and resources of our country while acting as a brake on our development efforts. Even the most bitter differences, I feel, could be settled amicably if parties are able to agree on a reasonable basis for settlement. It may not be wise, in my view to follow one single option to the exclusion of all others. Practical experience would demand that alternative options too are kept open to be pursued where others fail.

One of the tests of a mature democracy is the ability to periodically elect governments. And sometimes change governments by the free use of the vote without strife or rancour. As I look back on my period of trusteeship of our country, two occasions stand out when the people expressed their precious right of the vote in a most exemplary manner. The first was the provincial council elections of May 1993, and the other the parliamentary general election of August 1994. The manner in which the government and the people were able to conduct themselves during and after these two elections is an indication of the maturity which we have achieved as a democratic nation. Our conduct as a whole on these two occasions won for us the plaudits of the entire world.

I consider this to be an opportune moment to reflect on the state of our society today. I am appalled by the fact that Sri Lankan society is fast deteriorating and disintegrating morally, socially, and ethically. Terrorism, violence, and acts of barbarism have become the order of the day. There is no respect for the Maha Sangaha [Buddhist clergy], the elders, the teachers, and the leaders of the community. There is very little adherence to religious precepts and ethics. We must put a stop to the erosion of our age-old moral, social and ethical values and standards, if we are to bring back sanity into our social fabric.

It is in my nature to help anyone seeking my assistance in whatever possible way. Some look upon this as a sign of weakness on my part but I count it as one of my abiding strengths. As executive president, I have received countless representations from people pleading for the redress of injustices done to them. Through my officers in the presidential secretariat I have endeavoured to afford them whatever redress and relief possible. At the same time whenever instances of malpractices and abuse of power by errant politicians and officials were brought to my attention, I made haste in dealing with the offenders without fear or favour.

On the eve of my departure from President's House, I must place on record my sincere appreciation of the tremendous burden shouldered by our armed services and police personnel. Many are the members of our armed services and the police who have selflessly laid down their lives for the cause of a united Sri Lanka. My fervent hope and prayer is that the northern conflict would be settled early so that all the people of Sri Lanka could look forward to an era of peace, harmony, and prosperity, while maintaining the unity, sovereignty, and the territorial integrity of Sri Lanka.

After the recent general election, I continued to discharge the onerous responsibilities of the head of state cast on me by the Constitution. I presided over the meetings of the cabinet of ministers as well. It was certainly not a very happy and comfortable position to be in. However, with the cooperation and assistance extended to me by the prime minister, the minister without portfolio, as well as, by the other ministers combined with my own resolve to avoid confrontational politics, I was able to conduct business without acrimony and misunderstanding. I am indeed grateful to the cabinet of ministers for the courtesy and cooperation extended to me.

I would also wish to thank my secretary and his able team of officers of the presidential secretariat and the staff of my own personal division for all the assistance rendered to me so readily in the discharge of my official responsibilities and duties.

Finally, I thank all the people of Sri Lanka for the support and encouragement given to me during my period of office as president.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

May the blessings of the noble triple gem be with you.

Curfew Imposed To Stem 'Wave' of Election Violence

BK0911124594 Hong Kong AFP in English 1223 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Colombo, Nov 9 (AFP)—Tamil Tiger guerrillas stepped up attacks Wednesday [9 November] to mark Sri Lanka's presidential elections, while the government imposed a nationwide night curfew to stem a wave of poll-related violence.

The separatist Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) fired a barrage of mortar bombs at a northern military camp killing four soldiers, the military said, adding that security forces retaliated using artillery guns.

There was no voting in LTTE-held areas in the north where the two million Tamil minority is concentrated, despite the peace moves initiated by Prime Minister Chandrika Kumaratunga in August with the aim of holding polls there.

The talks were put on hold after the LTTE was implicated in last month's assassination of opposition United National Party (UNP) presidential candidate Gamini Dissanayake and 56 others in a bomb blast at a campaign rally.

Nine hours of polling ended Wednesday afternoon with police reporting over 100 violent clashes between rival political parties which left at least five people dead in the central, southern and northwestern regions.

Dozens of party supporters fought opponents in Colombo's Grandpass district, while an opposition former deputy minister was released on bail after he fired his gun into the air outside a polling booth here, in a bid to scare off government supporters, police said.

"There are lot of small incidents from all over the provinces. The curfew is being imposed to prevent them developing into big street fights," a military spokesman said.

Kumaratunga, who is the favourite candidate for the presidency, appealed for calm and urged her supporters not to be provoked. "Let us remain calm and consolidate our victory at (the August) parliamentary election," she said in an address to the nation.

Former prime minister Ranil Wickremesinghe, who is also parliamentary opposition leader, accused Kumaratunga's People's Alliance (PA) party of intimidating UNP activists with thuggery.

"We have reports that our polling agents are being prevented from entering the (polling) booths," Wickremesinghe told reporters after casting his ballot at the heavily guarded Thurstan College Polling Centre here.

About 38,500 police, backed by soldiers armed with automatic assault rifles, were deployed to patrol the streets and guard government buildings as ballot boxes were being taken to counting centres.

Election officials said initial reports suggested that 60 to 65 percent of the 10.9 million electorate turned out to vote Wednesday, making the polling turnout lower than at the August 16 general election when 80 percent voted.

Kumaratunga flew by helicopter from here to her home constituency of Attanagalla, 40 kilometers (25 miles) northeast of here, to vote and expressed confidence of gaining a one-million majority over her main rival, Dissanayake's widow Srima.

"I am most certain about my victory. I expect a majority of one million votes," she said adding that the future of her talks with the LTTE will be decided after the poll.

Political analysts believe that it would be difficult for Kumaratunga to garner a big majority because increased Tiger attacks after her talks with the LTTE had dented her image as a peace-maker.

The outgoing president Dingiri Banda Wijetunga too in his farewell address to the nation cautioned Kumaratunga not to follow only a policy of negotiations by excluding the military option.

"It may not be wise, in my view, to follow a single option to the exclusion of all others," said Wijetunga who will bow out of politics after Sri Lanka's new President is declared sometime Thursday.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 352
MERRIFIELD, VA.

This is a U.S. Government publication. Its contents in no way represent the policies, views, or attitudes of the U.S. Government. Users of this publication may cite FBIS or JPRS provided they do so in a manner clearly identifying them as the secondary source.

Foreign Broadcast Information Service (FBIS) and Joint Publications Research Service (JPRS) publications contain political, military, economic, environmental, and sociological news, commentary, and other information, as well as scientific and technical data and reports. All information has been obtained from foreign radio and television broadcasts, news agency transmissions, newspapers, books, and periodicals. Items generally are processed from the first or best available sources. It should not be inferred that they have been disseminated only in the medium, in the language, or to the area indicated. Items from foreign language sources are translated; those from English-language sources are transcribed. Except for excluding certain diacritics, FBIS renders personal names and place-names in accordance with the romanization systems approved for U.S. Government publications by the U.S. Board of Geographic Names.

Headlines, editorial reports, and material enclosed in brackets [ ] are supplied by FBIS/JPRS. Processing indicators such as [Text] or [Excerpts] in the first line of each item indicate how the information was processed from the original. Unfamiliar names rendered phonetically are enclosed in parentheses. Words or names preceded by a question mark and enclosed in parentheses were not clear from the original source but have been supplied as appropriate to the context. Other unattributed parenthetical notes within the body of an item originate with the source. Times within items are as given by the source. Passages in boldface or italics are as published.

SUBSCRIPTION/PROCUREMENT INFORMATION

The FBIS DAILY REPORT contains current news and information and is published Monday through Friday in eight volumes: China, East Europe, Central Eurasia, East Asia, Near East & South Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America, and West Europe. Supplements to the DAILY REPORTs may also be available periodically and will be distributed to regular DAILY REPORT subscribers. JPRS publications, which include approximately 50 regional, worldwide, and topical reports, generally contain less time-sensitive information and are published periodically.

Current DAILY REPORTs and JPRS publications are listed in *Government Reports Announcements* issued semimonthly by the National Technical Information Service (NTIS), 5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield, Virginia 22161 and the *Monthly Catalog of U.S. Government Publications* issued by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

The public may subscribe to either hardcover or microfiche versions of the DAILY REPORTs and JPRS publications through NTIS at the above address or by calling (703) 487-4630. Subscription rates will be provided by NTIS upon request. Subscriptions are available outside the United States from NTIS or appointed foreign dealers. New subscribers should expect a 30-day delay in receipt of the first issue.

U.S. Government offices may obtain subscriptions to the DAILY REPORTs or JPRS publications (hardcover or microfiche) at no charge through their sponsoring organizations. For additional information or assistance, call FBIS, (202) 338-6735,or write to P.O. Box 2604, Washington, D.C. 20013. Department of Defense consumers are required to submit requests through appropriate command validation channels to DIA, RTS-2C, Washington, D.C. 20301. (Telephone: (202) 373-3771, Autovon: 243-3771.)

Back issues or single copies of the DAILY REPORTs and JPRS publications are not available. Both the DAILY REPORTs and the JPRS publications are on file for public reference at the Library of Congress and at many Federal Depository Libraries. Reference copies may also be seen at many public and university libraries throughout the United States.